You're My Pet

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Yayoi Ogawa

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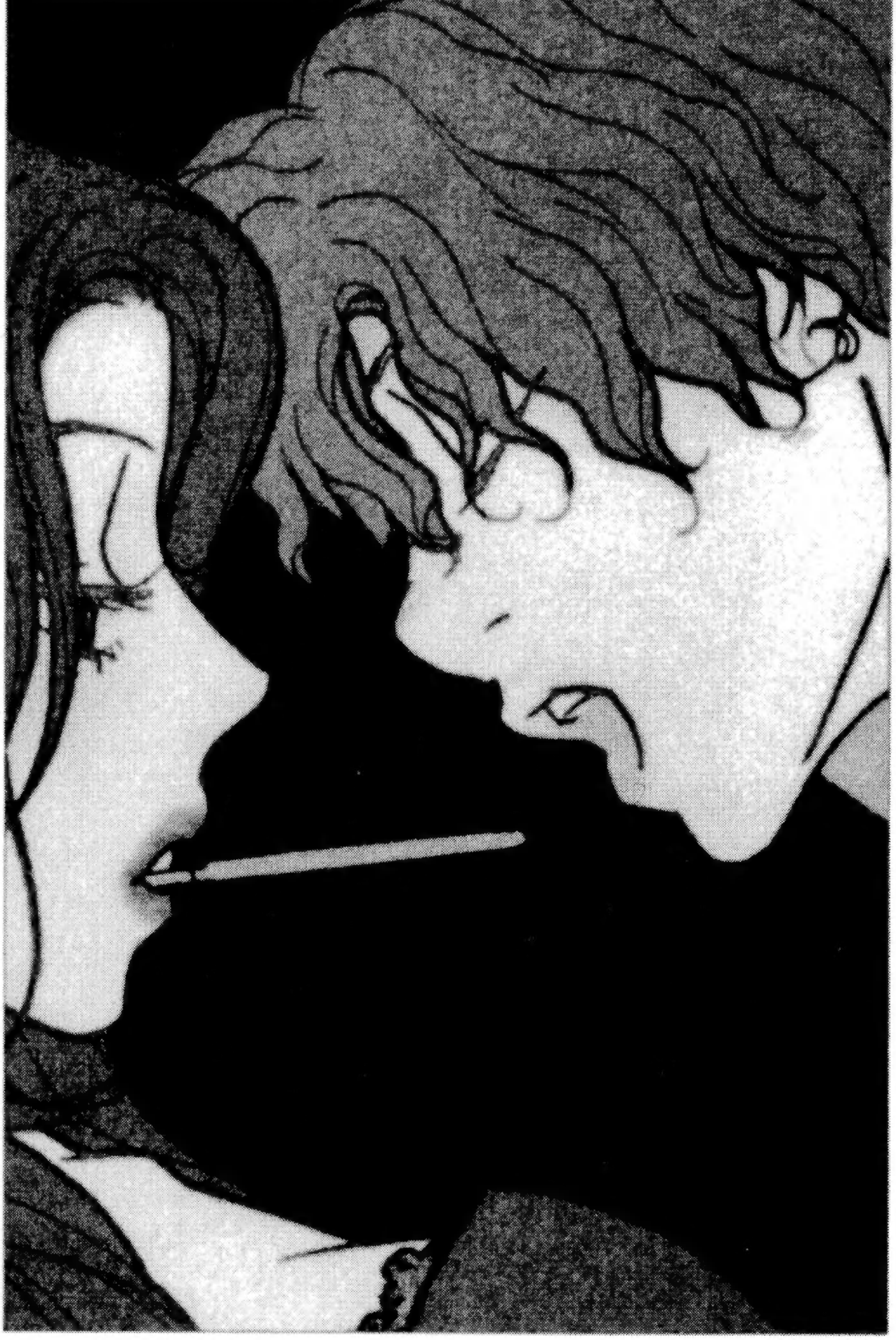
小川彌生

You're My Pet

BY YAYOI OGAWA

VOL. 1



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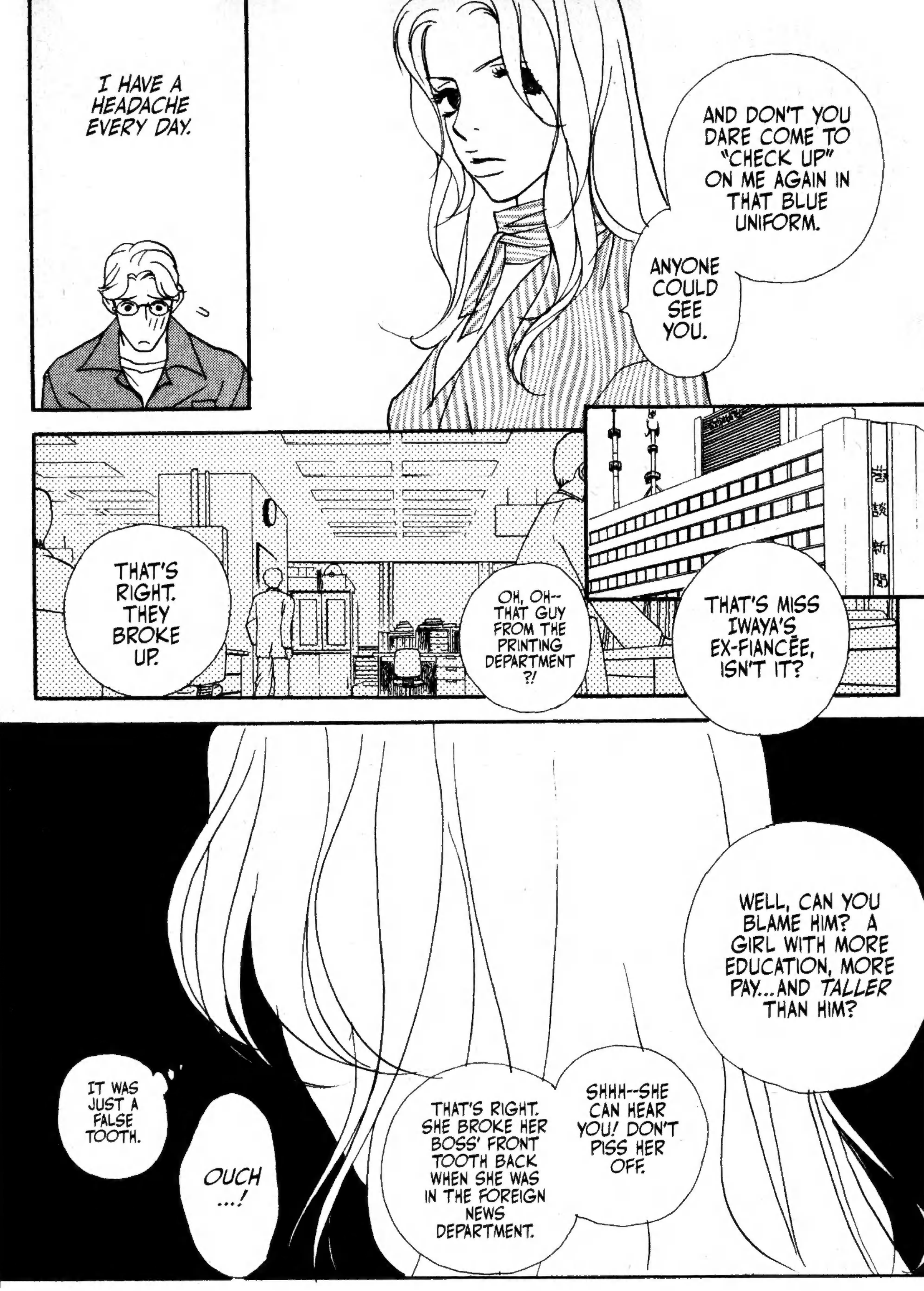
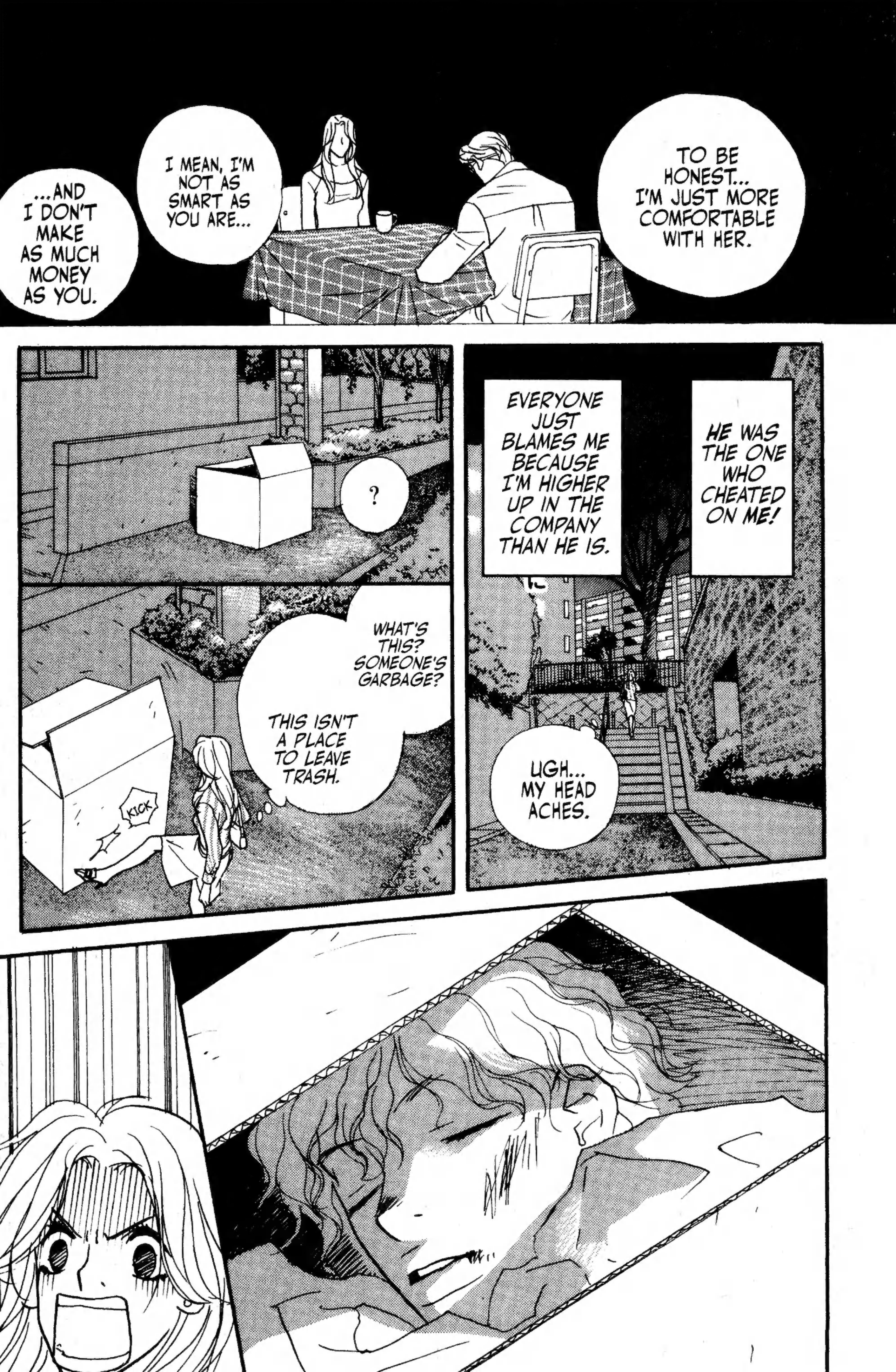
RULE 1: ON KEEPING A BEAUTIFUL BOY AS A PET

I'D RATHER DIE THAN CRY IN FRONT OF SOMEONE.
HERE IT IS.
"THE SECRET TO SPARKLING CLEAN GLASSES."
SO IS THAT IT?
NO MORE "IMPORTANT ITEMS" YOU'LL NEED TO SEE ME TO GET BACK?
UH, YEAH... THAT'S EVERYTHING.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR GIRLFRIEND? HOW'S SHE DOING?
SHE'S DUE NEXT MONTH, ISN'T SHE?
Y-YEAH...
WHAT ABOUT YOU...?
ME?
WELL, HOW ARE THINGS?
NOT MUCH DIFFERENT. WHY?
DO I LOOK LIKE I'VE BEEN CRYING MY EYES OUT?

H 170cm
WELL... YOU *DID* TRANSFER TO THE LIFESTYLE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT.
AND I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN HAVING TROUBLE WITH THE CHIEF DIRECTOR.
I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT YOU...
WHAT? I JUST BROKE HIS FALSE TOOTH.
BESIDES, IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
ガタッ
I MEAN, FOR CHRISSAKES. I'M NOT A TEENAGER OR A TWENTY-SOMETHING PARTY GIRL ANYMORE.
OF COURSE I'M MORTIFIED THAT I HIT THE BOSS. HE WAS JUST DRUNK AND CAME ON TO ME.
IT WAS A REALLY STUPID THING TO DO.
EVEN IF IT WAS RIGHT AFTER THE GUY I DATED FOR FIVE YEARS DECIDED TO DUMP ME...
...I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE I DID IT.
OH, I'LL PAY FOR MINE.
NAH, DON'T BOTHER.
I JUST WON'T SHELL OUT FOR ANY BABY SHOWER GIFTS. DEAL?

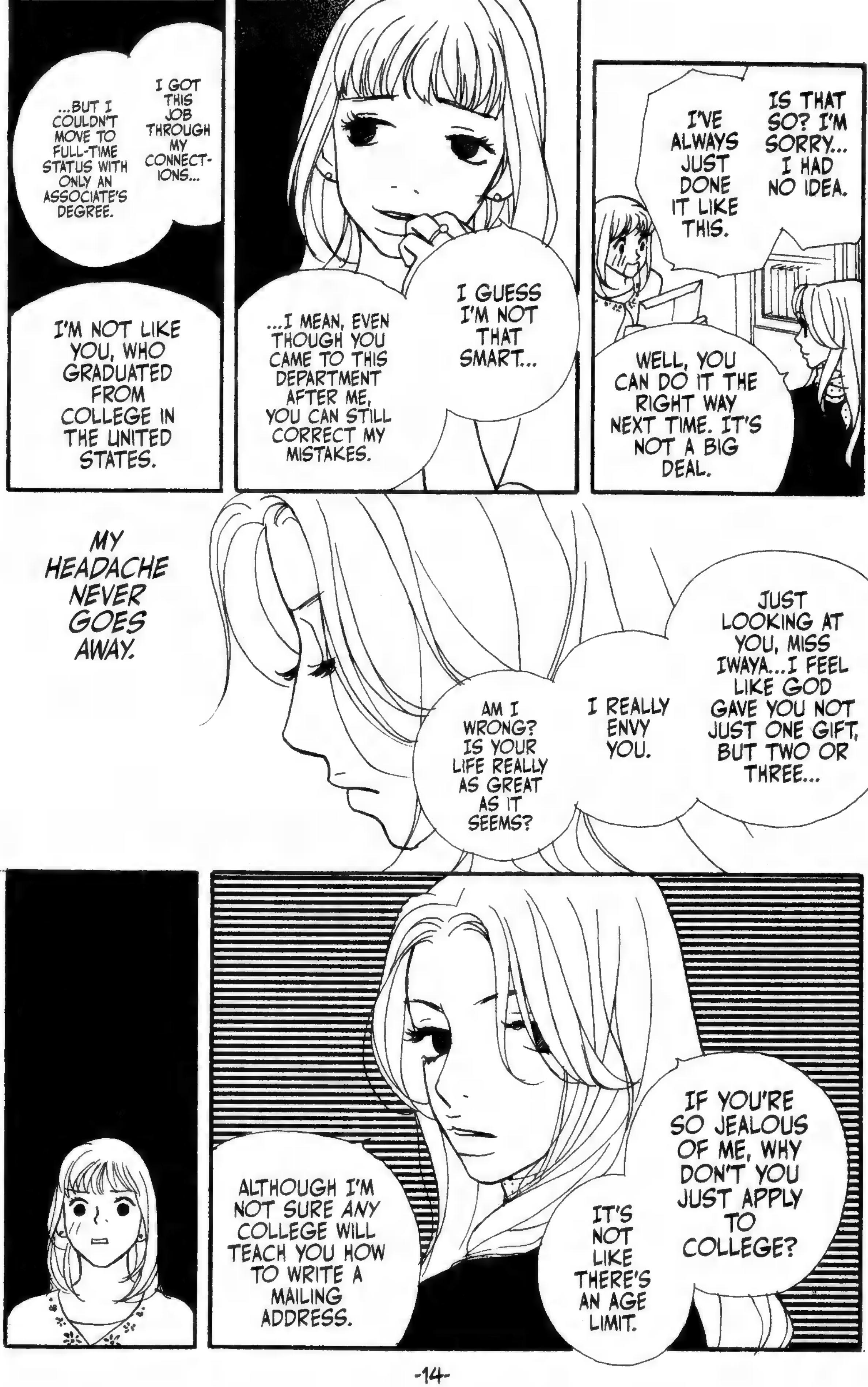


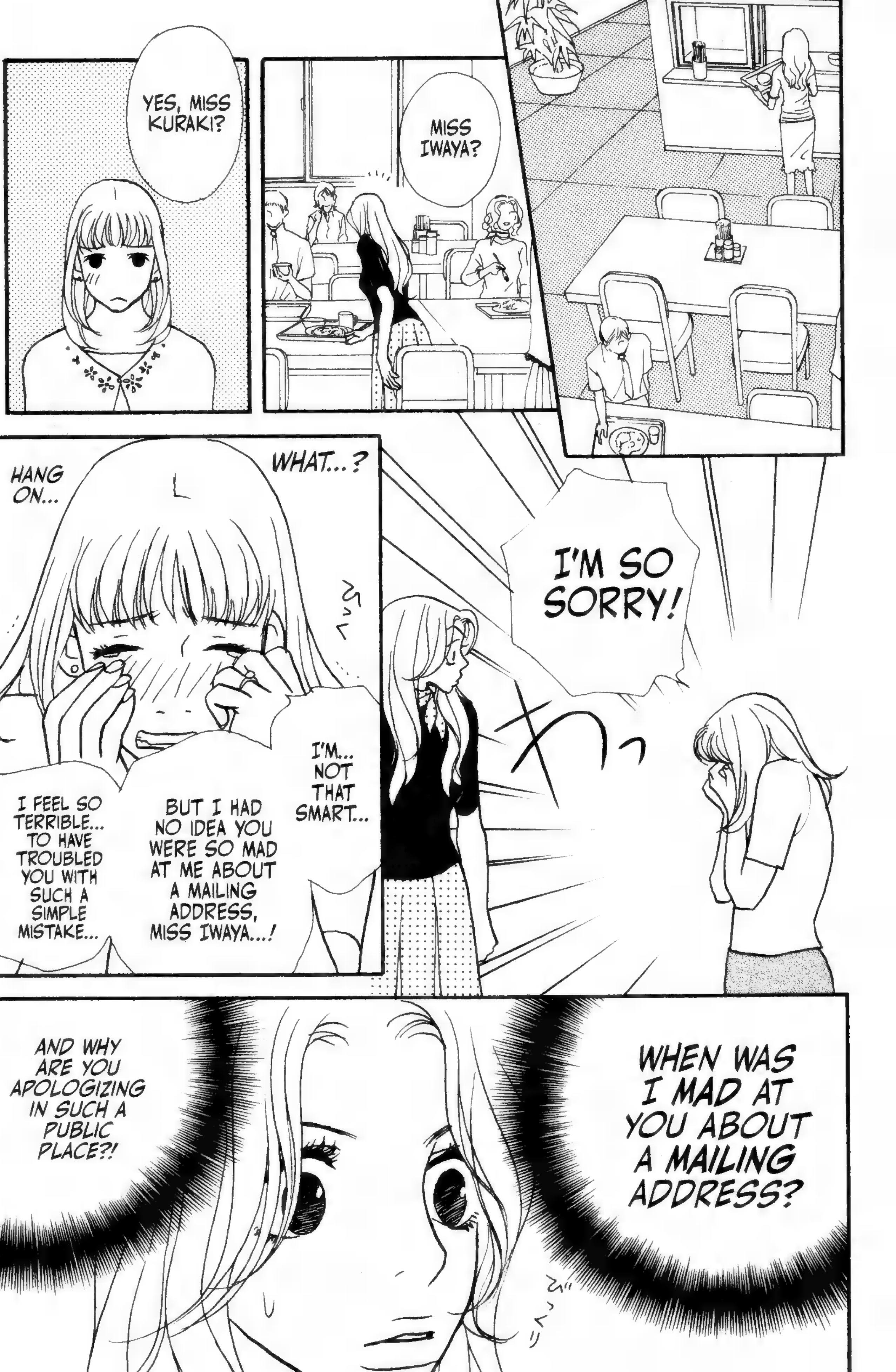
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS "EQUAL OPPORTUNITY" FOR WOMEN.

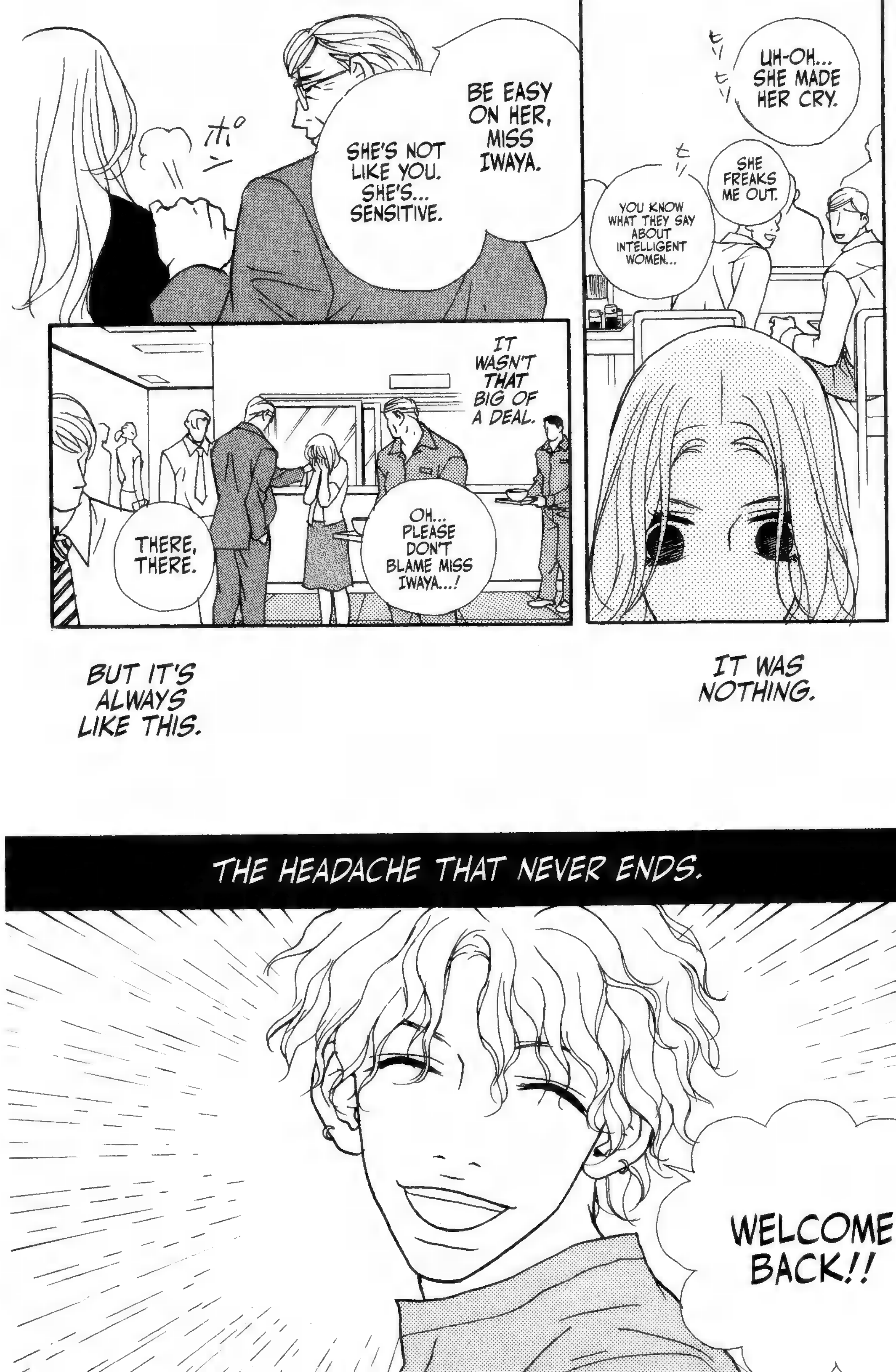

TO BE HONEST... I'M JUST MORE COMFORTABLE WITH HER.
I MEAN, I'M NOT AS SMART AS YOU ARE...
...AND I DON'T MAKE AS MUCH MONEY AS YOU.
HE WAS THE ONE WHO CHEATED ON ME!
EVERYONE JUST BLAMES ME BECAUSE I'M HIGHER UP IN THE COMPANY THAN HE IS.
UGH... MY HEAD ACHES.
?
WHAT'S THIS? SOMEONE'S GARBAGE?
THIS ISN'T A PLACE TO LEAVE TRASH.
KICK

A DEAD BODY...
はくばく
ばく
ぶめく
BUT IT WASN'T A DEAD BODY.
...SO MY LANDLORD TURNS OUT TO BE GAY.
AND GET THIS... HE SAID IF I SLEPT WITH HIM FOR ONE NIGHT, HE'D CANCEL ALL MY DEBT!
SO I SAID "WHAT THE HELL," AND WENT TO SEE HIM. BUT THEN GUESS WHAT? HE WANTED ME TO BE ON TOP.
SO I HAD TO REFUSE. THAT'S WHEN HE BEAT ME UP AND LOCKED ME IN.
SO I CHICKENED OUT. AFTER ALL THAT, I COULDN'T EVEN STICK MY THING INTO HIS ASSHOLE.
IS THAT SO?
YUP!
I FINALLY ESCAPED... BUT THEN I RAN OUT OF BREATH HERE.
BY THE WAY-- THIS IS REALLY GOOD!
THIS, TOO! OOH, AND THAT!
YOU THINK SO...?
GOOD.
YEAH! I'VE NEVER MET A WOMAN WHO COOKED BEFORE!
GOOD THING YOU TOOK ME IN.
HE SOUNDS LIKE AN ABANDONED DOG.

WHAT?! YOU LET HIM STAY?!
IT'S FINE. BESIDES, HE WAS INJURED.
I MEAN, I KNOW YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, BUT YOU REALLY SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL.
YOU SURE HE'S NOT A MALE PROSTITUTE OR SOMETHING?
PFFT. HE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE ANY CASH ON HIM.
OH, COME ON. EVEN THAT'S SUSPICIOUS.
BESIDES... HE KIND OF REMINDS ME OF MOMO.
SNORE
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?!
I KNOW. BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S A BAD GUY.
MOMO WAS YOUR PET DOG!!
YOU KNOW... THE ONE YOU USED TO HAVE.
Please return this key to apartment man when you leave. Here's some breakfast.
OH, MISS KURAKI... DID YOU WRITE THIS MAILING ADDRESS?
OH-- YES.
WHICH ONE?
WHEN YOU ADDRESS A LETTER TO SOMEONE CARE OF SOMEONE ELSE, YOU STILL NEED TO PUT "MR." OR "MS." AFTER C/O.
REALLY?!


IS THAT SO? I'M SORRY... I HAD NO IDEA.
I'VE ALWAYS JUST DONE IT LIKE THIS.
WELL, YOU CAN DO IT THE RIGHT WAY NEXT TIME. IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.
I GUESS I'M NOT THAT SMART...
...I MEAN, EVEN THOUGH YOU CAME TO THIS DEPARTMENT AFTER ME, YOU CAN STILL CORRECT MY MISTAKES.
I GOT THIS JOB THROUGH MY CONNECT-IONS...
...BUT I COULDN'T MOVE TO FULL-TIME STATUS WITH ONLY AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE.
I'M NOT LIKE YOU, WHO GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE IN THE UNITED STATES.
JUST LOOKING AT YOU, MISS IWAYA...I FEEL LIKE GOD GAVE YOU NOT JUST ONE GIFT, BUT TWO OR THREE...
I REALLY ENVY YOU.
AM I WRONG? IS YOUR LIFE REALLY AS GREAT AS IT SEEMS?
MY HEADACHE NEVER GOES AWAY.
IF YOU'RE SO JEALOUS OF ME, WHY DON'T YOU JUST APPLY TO COLLEGE?
IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S AN AGE LIMIT.
ALTHOUGH I'M NOT SURE ANY COLLEGE WILL TEACH YOU HOW TO WRITE A MAILING ADDRESS.


MISS IWAYA?
YES, MISS KURAKI?
I'M SO SORRY!
WHAT...?
HANG ON...
I'M... NOT THAT SMART...
BUT I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE SO MAD AT ME ABOUT A MAILING ADDRESS, MISS IWAYA...!
I FEEL SO TERRIBLE... TO HAVE TROUBLED YOU WITH SUCH A SIMPLE MISTAKE...
WHEN WAS I MAD AT YOU ABOUT A MAILING ADDRESS?
AND WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING IN SUCH A PUBLIC PLACE?!

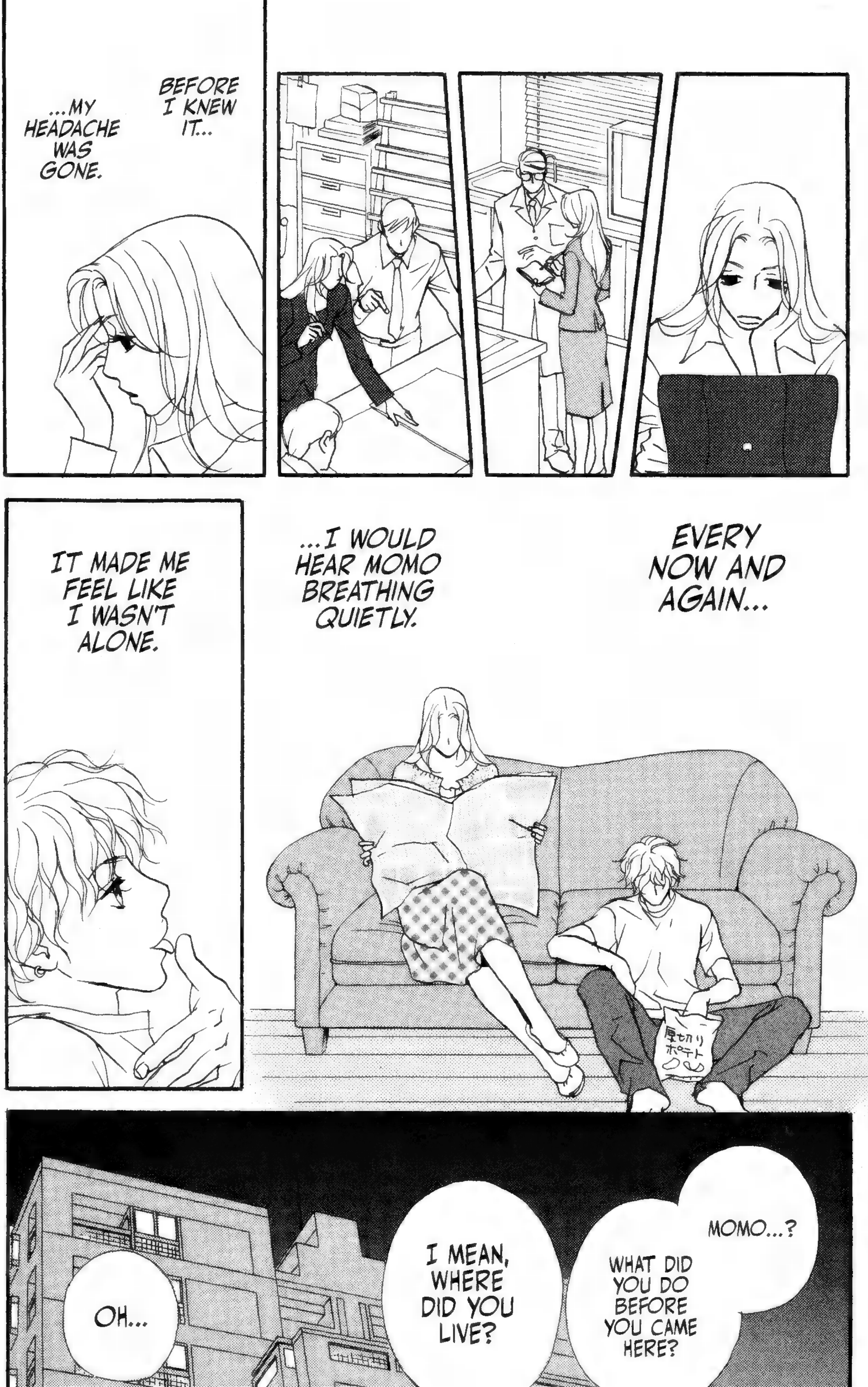

BE EASY ON HER, MISS IWAYA.
SHE'S NOT LIKE YOU. SHE'S... SENSITIVE.
UH-OH... SHE MADE HER CRY.
SHE FREAKS ME OUT.
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT INTELLIGENT WOMEN...
IT WASN'T THAT BIG OF A DEAL.
OH... PLEASE DON'T BLAME MISS IWAYA...!
THERE, THERE.
IT WAS NOTHING.
BUT IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS.
THE HEADACHE THAT NEVER ENDS.
WELCOME BACK!!

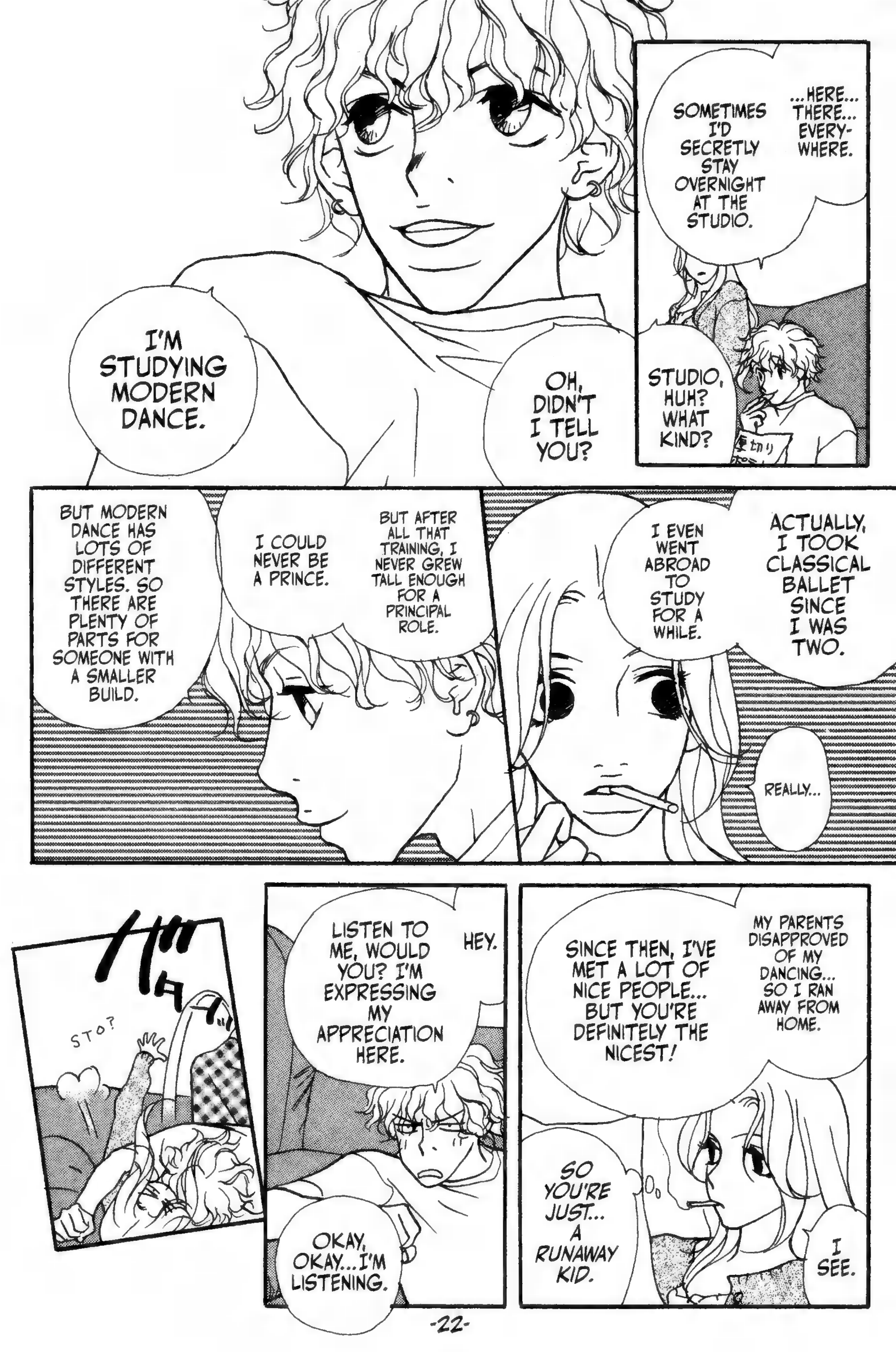
OH... YOU'RE STILL HERE?
WELL, FOR ONE THING, I DON'T HAVE MONEY TO TAKE A TRAIN. FOR ANOTHER, I'M AFRAID MY GAY LANDLORD WILL FIND ME!
GREAT. MORE HEADACHES...
AND FOR A THIRD...
...I'D LOVE TO TASTE SOME OF YOUR DELICIOUS HOME-COOKING... ONE MORE TIME. ♡
JEEZ, I'M HUNGRY!
UN-BEL-IEV-ABLE...
CUTE APRON
WHY...
...AM I DOING THIS...?
はっ
WOO-HOO!
THANKS.
ALL RIGHT... BUT YOU NEED TO LEAVE AFTER DINNER, OKAY? I'LL GIVE YOU SOME CASH FOR THE TRAIN.
B... BUT...
NO BUTS.
IF I LEAVE HERE, I'M DONE FOR! THE GAY MAN'S GONNA KILLLL MEEE...
...NOOOOO!
ゴロ
ゴロ
SO? NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
UNLESS...
...YOU'D LIKE TO BE MY PET?

I MEAN, I COULD KEEP YOU HERE. AS A PET.
IF YOU'RE GOOD ENOUGH, I MIGHT EVEN FEED YOU.
BUT YOU WOULD HAVE TO OBEY MY ORDERS.
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I'M KIDDING, OF COURSE.
THIS'LL GET RID OF HIM FOR SURE.
Y... YE...
YEEE-HAW!!
TALK ABOUT GETTING LUCKY!!!
SHAKE! NICE TO MEET YOU, MASTER!!
......
WELL, THE LOFT'S OPEN.
WHY DON'T YOU USE THAT AS YOUR... UM...AREA?
WHOA... HOW DO YOU HAVE SUCH A BIG PLACE?
WELL, I THOUGHT I WAS GETTING MARRIED WHEN I BOUGHT IT...

OH.
THEN... WHERE'S YOUR FIANCÉE?
HE LEFT ME AFTER KNOCKING UP HIS MISTRESS.
OOPS... GUESS I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED.
NOT GOOD... NOT GOOD...
BY THE WAY... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HUH?
MY NAME? WELL, YOU CAN CALL ME ANYTHING, RIGHT?
JUST USE THE NAME OF YOUR EX... OR YOUR FAVORITE ACTOR.
THAT'S HOW PETS ARE USUALLY NAMED.
OH!
I SEE.
IN THAT CASE, I THINK I'LL CALL YOU...
...MOMO.
OFFICIAL NAME
THAT WAS MY DOG'S NAME.
YOUR HAIR... WITH ALL THOSE BLACK ROOTS... LOOKS KINDA LIKE HERS.
THAT'S IT.
A... DOG'S NAME?
A FEMALE DOG'S NAME?
OH--AND NOW THAT YOU'RE STAYING HERE, I WANT YOU TO TAKE A BATH.
YOUR HAIR IS A LITTLE DIRTY.
BUT-- I CAN'T USE MY HAND.

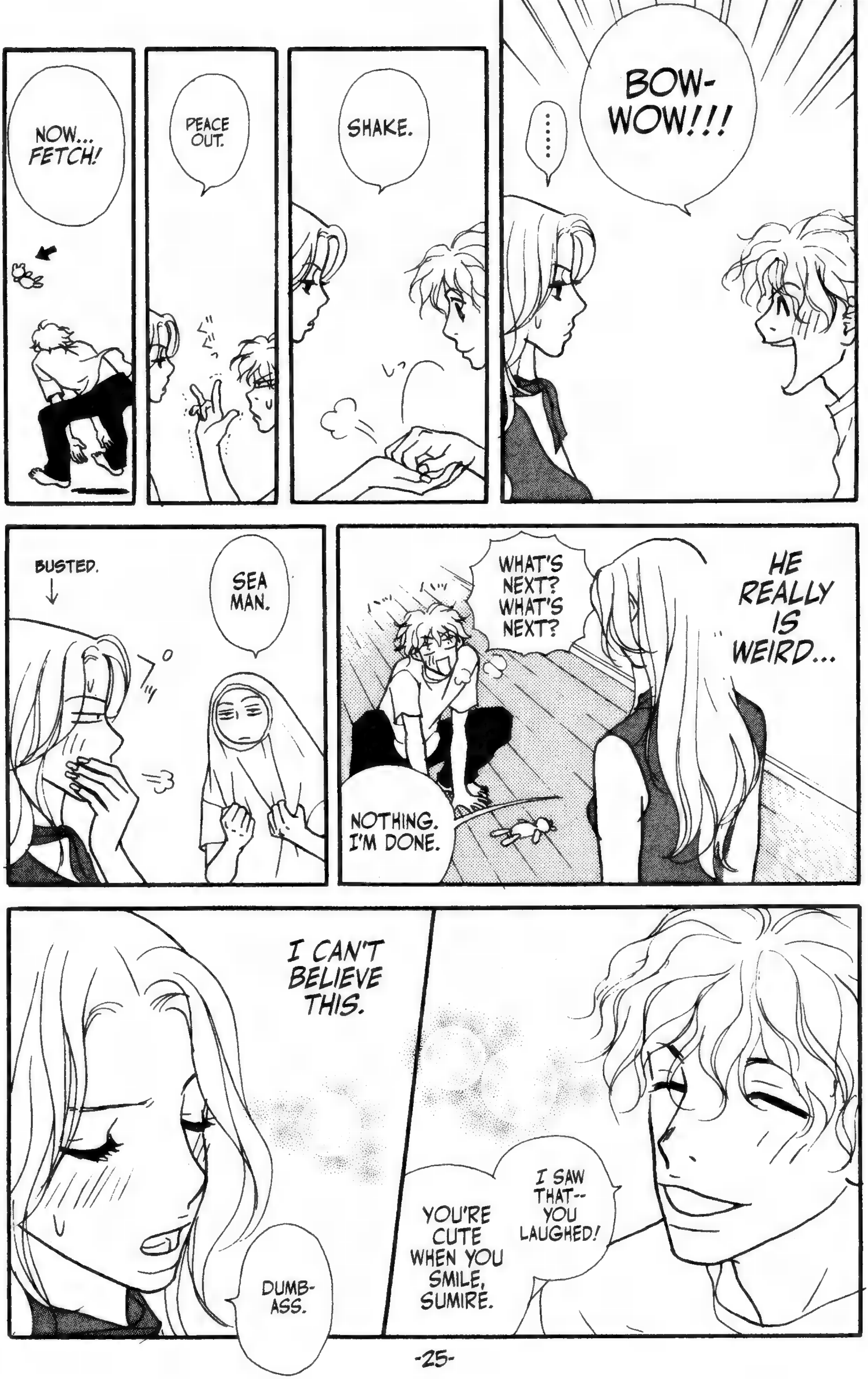
MMMM...
...FEELS GREEEAAAT...
ASK ME WHERE MY MAGIC ITCHY SPOT IS.
SHUT UP.
WHY ARE YOU WEARING SUN-GLASSES, ANYWAY?
WELL, THEY'RE BETTER THAN NAKED EYES...
...ALTHOUGH THEY ARE GETTING PRETTY FOGGED UP.
OF COURSE.
IT'S OKAY. I DON'T MIND IF YOU SEE ME LIKE THIS.
WELL, THANKS, BUT I MIND.
SAY, MASTER-- WHAT'S YOUR FIRST NAME?
SUMIRE.
SUMIRE.
THAT'S A CUTE NAME. ♡


BEFORE I KNEW IT...
...MY HEADACHE WAS GONE.
EVERY NOW AND AGAIN...
...I WOULD HEAR MOMO BREATHING QUIETLY.
IT MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WASN'T ALONE.
厚切りポテト
MOMO...?
WHAT DID YOU DO BEFORE YOU CAME HERE?
I MEAN, WHERE DID YOU LIVE?
OH...


SOMETIMES I'D SECRETLY STAY OVERNIGHT AT THE STUDIO.
...HERE... THERE... EVERYWHERE.
STUDIO, HUH? WHAT KIND?
OH, DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
I'M STUDYING MODERN DANCE.
ACTUALLY, I TOOK CLASSICAL BALLET SINCE I WAS TWO.
I EVEN WENT ABROAD TO STUDY FOR A WHILE.
REALLY...
BUT AFTER ALL THAT TRAINING, I NEVER GREW TALL ENOUGH FOR A PRINCIPAL ROLE.
I COULD NEVER BE A PRINCE.
BUT MODERN DANCE HAS LOTS OF DIFFERENT STYLES. SO THERE ARE PLENTY OF PARTS FOR SOMEONE WITH A SMALLER BUILD.
MY PARENTS DISAPPROVED OF MY DANCING... SO I RAN AWAY FROM HOME.
SINCE THEN, I'VE MET A LOT OF NICE PEOPLE... BUT YOU'RE DEFINITELY THE NICEST!
I SEE.
SO YOU'RE JUST... A RUNAWAY KID.
HEY.
LISTEN TO ME, WOULD YOU? I'M EXPRESSING MY APPRECIATION HERE.
OKAY, OKAY...I'M LISTENING.
STO?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I EXPRESS APPRECIATION WITH ACTIONS, NOT WORDS.
OOOKAY, I'M KIDDING. ♡
HEY-- ANYONE EVER TELL YOU YOU'VE GOT A FLAT CHEST?
GET UP.
WELL-- IT'S STILL HALFWAY UP--
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT YOUR PENIS!!
170cm
NOW WHO'S TALLER?
164cm
YOU ARE... MASTER...

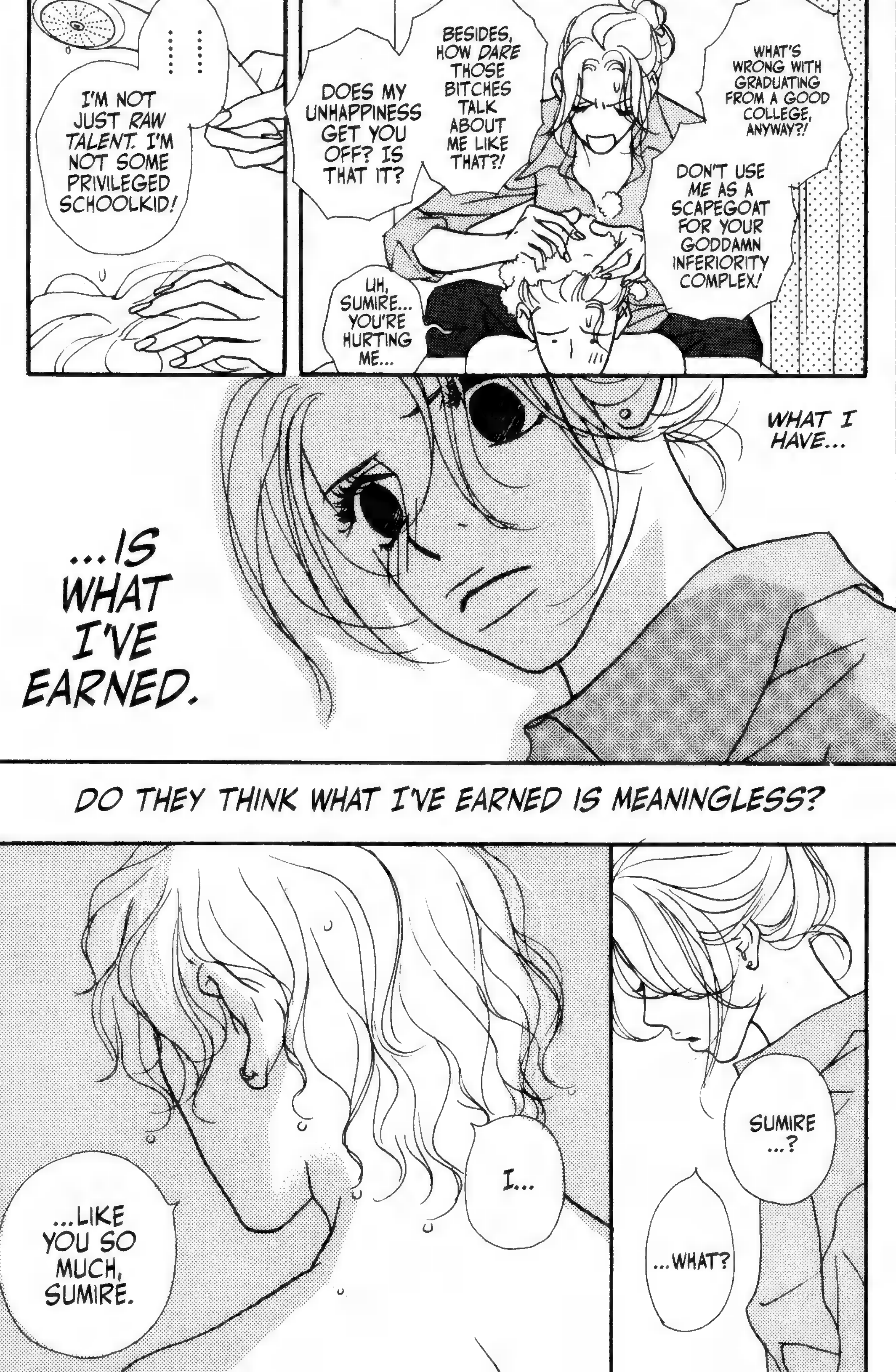
ONLY SOMEONE WHO'S TALLER AND MAKES MORE MONEY CAN DO *THAT* TO ME!
A PET IS A *PET!* UNDERSTAND?
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M SICK OF MEN'S INFERIORITY COMPLEXES!
WELCOME HOME!!!
......
YOU'RE NOT GONE YET... EVEN AFTER THE CRUEL THINGS I SAID LAST NIGHT?
WHAT A WEIRD KID...
WOO-HOO! CURRY TONIGHT!
MOMO...
...BARK FOR ME.


NOW... FETCH!
PEACE OUT.
SHAKE.
......
BOW-WOW!!!
BUSTED.
SEA MAN.
WHAT'S NEXT? WHAT'S NEXT?
NOTHING. I'M DONE.
HE REALLY IS WEIRD...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.
I SAW THAT--YOU LAUGHED!
YOU'RE CUTE WHEN YOU SMILE, SUMIRE.
DUMB-ASS.

YOU'RE THE CUTE ONE.
SO YOU'RE SAYING... YOU WANT ME TO REWRITE THE WHOLE THING?
WELL, MISS IWAYA...
FOR THE LIFESTYLE SECTION, WE NEED WRITING THAT'S PLAIN-SPOKEN... FRIENDLY.
YOU CAN'T WRITE IN THE SAME STYLE YOU USED FOR THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL STUFF.

OUR READERS ARE MAINLY JUST ORDINARY HOUSEWIVES.
I KNOW YOU GRADUATED FROM A GOOD SCHOOL, BUT THIS IS A PIECE OF CRAP.
MISS IWAYA? FROM THE LIFESTYLE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT?
THAT'S FUNNY... WE ALL JOINED THE COMPANY AROUND THE SAME TIME, BUT SHE GOT PROMOTED MUCH FASTER THAN ANY OF US.
LESS THAN SIX MONTHS AFTER SHE CAME FROM THE BRANCH OFFICE, SHE GOT PROMOTED AND TRANSFERRED TO FOREIGN NEWS.
AND I HEARD SHE BROKE UP WITH MR. YOSHIDA FROM PRINTING.
I KNOW I SHOULDN'T BE SAYING THIS, BUT...
...I WAS KIND OF LIKE, "SERVES HER RIGHT."
I MEAN, ALL THAT TALENT AND PRIVILEGE... IT'S KIND OF DISGUSTING, YOU KNOW?
IT'S LIKE, WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?
I KNOW.

I'LL BET MR. YOSHIDA COULDN'T TAKE ALL HER CORPORATE LADDER-CLIMBING. HE *HAD* TO GIVE UP THE RELATIONSHIP.
IT ONLY GOES TO SHOW THAT WHEN A WOMAN PURSUES HER CAREER, SHE CAN'T PURSUE MARRIAGE.
TOO TRUE...
IT ONLY GOES TO SHOW THAT WHEN A WOMAN PURSUES HER CAREER, SHE CAN'T PURSUE MARRIAGE.
I KNOW YOU GRADUATED FROM A GOOD SCHOOL, BUT THIS IS A PIECE OF CRAP.
TO BE HONEST, I'M JUST MORE COM-FORT-ABLE WITH HER...
HUH?
WELCOME HOME. YOU'RE BACK LATE TONIGHT.
C'MON, MOMO! LET'S WASH YOUR HAIR!
EH? BUT MY HAND'S HEALED NOW...
SHUT UP!



WHAT'S WRONG WITH GRADUATING FROM A GOOD COLLEGE, ANYWAY?!
BESIDES, HOW DARE THOSE BITCHES TALK ABOUT ME LIKE THAT?!
DOES MY UNHAPPINESS GET YOU OFF? IS THAT IT?
DON'T USE ME AS A SCAPEGOAT FOR YOUR GODDAMN INFERIORITY COMPLEX!
UH, SUMIRE... YOU'RE HURTING ME...
......
I'M NOT JUST RAW TALENT. I'M NOT SOME PRIVILEGED SCHOOLKID!
WHAT I HAVE...
...IS WHAT I'VE EARNED.
DO THEY THINK WHAT I'VE EARNED IS MEANINGLESS?
SUMIRE ...?
...WHAT?
I...
...LIKE YOU SO MUCH, SUMIRE.

YOU'RE GOOD AT COOKING AND SHAMPOOING... YOU'RE GENEROUS... AND YOU SMELL GOOD.
BUT... YOU'RE STILL REALLY LONELY.
EVEN THOUGH YOU TRY HARDER THAN ANYONE ELSE...
MOMO...
...YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ME, CAN YOU?

WELL, I CAN...
YES...
...BUT I WON'T TELL HER THAT.
'CAUSE I THINK SHE'S CRYING.
SHE NEVER LETS ME SEE WHEN SHE CRIES, BUT I CAN TELL.
MOMO?
I KNOW THAT DADDY IS CHEATING ON MOM.
MOM SAYS SHE WON'T DIVORCE HIM... FOR MY SAKE.
BUT ISN'T THE PROBLEM REALLY BETWEEN THEM?
OH, MOMO...
...YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO LISTENS TO ME.
MOMO?
MOMO?!
NO. THIS ISN'T HAPPENING.

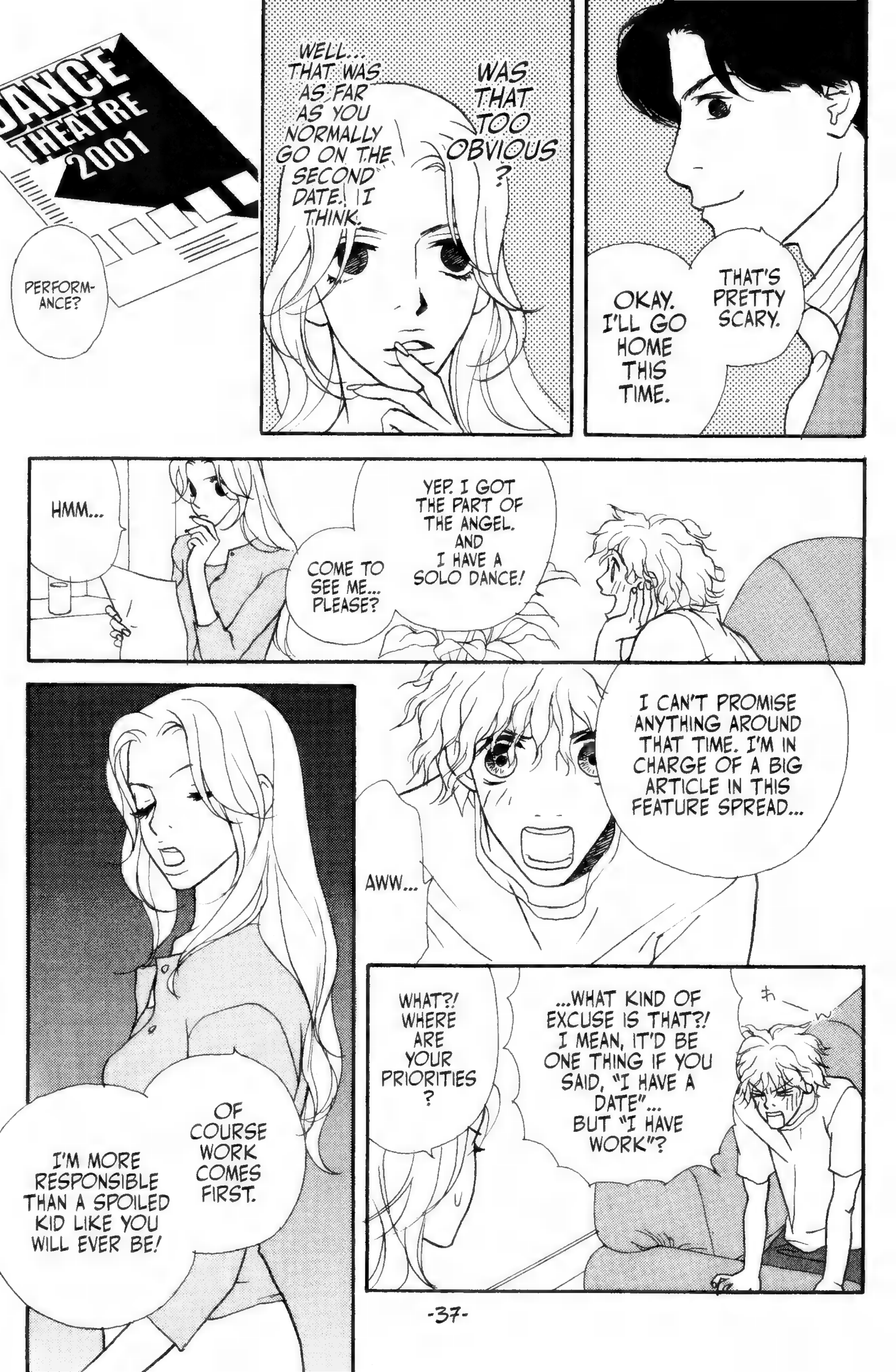
I'M STRONG NOW. I DON'T NEED TO CRY.
I ALWAYS DID THE BEST I COULD... SO EVERY-ONE WOULD RESPECT ME.
BUT...
...I WAS ALWAYS A CRYBABY IN FRONT OF YOU, MOMO.
......

CHECKING THE TRASH CAN
......
AH... AFTER THE SHAMPOO, WE STARTED DRINKING...
DAMN IT, YOSHIDA... YOU HAVE STINKY FEET! HOW COULD YOU CHEAT ON ME...?!
STOP IT, SUMIRE! IT'S ALREADY THREE O'CLOCK!
THIS KID...
...STAYED BESIDE ME ALL NIGHT.
GOOD BOY, MOMO.
MISS IWAYA? WE'VE ALREADY RECEIVED THE DATA FROM DR. OGAWA.
OH-- THANK YOU.

HEY... MISS KURAKI AND THE REST OF US WERE GONNA GO DRINKING TONIGHT...
OH MY GOSH...
...IS IT REALLY THIS LATE?!
I'M GOING HOME RIGHT AFTER I TAKE THIS TO THE IMAGE-PROCESSING DEPARTMENT.
COULD YOU JUST PUT THE GALLEY PROOF ON MY DESK? THANKS!
I THOUGHT I COULD GO HOME EARLY, SO I DIDN'T PUT OUT ANY FOOD FOR MOMO!
WHAT'S MOMO?
DUNNO. SOME NEW PET OF HERS.
I WONDER WHAT IT IS. A DOG? A CAT?
BEATS ME...
WELL, WHATEVER IT IS... MISS IWAYA...
...DOES SEEM TO HAVE CHANGED FOR THE BETTER.
I'M STARVING!!!
FOOD! FOOD! FOOD!
UGH...WILL YOU JUST SHUT UP AND WAIT?!!
I DON'T GET IT. HOW COULD YOU HAVE KEPT HIM THIS LONG...
...WITHOUT SEX?

*Common conditions women expect for their husbands in Japan.
YOU KNOW... THE SO-CALLED "THREE HIGHS."*
I JUST KNOW WHAT I WANT. IF A MAN WANTS TO BE WITH ME, HE'S GOT TO HAVE HIGHER EDUCATION, HIGHER PAY AND HIGHER HEIGHT!
...THERE AREN'T MANY GUYS LIKE THAT IN REAL WORLD.
WELL. EVEN IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT...
SUMIRE, YOU'RE INSANE.
IF YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT WITH HIM, WHY DON'T YOU JUST SEDUCE HIM ALREADY?
YOU'RE SO PREJUDICED ...
I DUNNO. HAVING A YOUNG BOYFRIEND JUST SEEMS TIRING.
THEY PROBABLY NEED SEX MORNING, NOON AND NIGHT.
YURI... IT'S NOT APPROPRIATE TO SAY "SEX" IN FRONT OF YOUR CHILD.
OOPS-- MY BAD.
AH, WELL... NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
WHAT'S SEX?
AH HA HA HA!
JEEZ. JUST SHUT UP AND TELL ME.
FU, FU, FU... YURI, YURI, YURI.
WHAT? WHAT'S SO--
VICTORY
IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT AFTER EIGHT MONTHS, I'VE FINALLY FOUND...
...THE PERFECT MAN.

HE WORKS IN THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT. HE'S THE PRESIDENT'S SON.
AND HE EASILY PASSES MY REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION AND HEIGHT.
OF COURSE, THE POMPIDOU EXHIBITION WILL BE OVER IN AUGUST...
...AND FOR MY VACA, I'M TRAVELING TO FRANCE.
IF YOU'D LIKE TO COME WITH, IT CAN BE ARRANGED.
WOW... SOUNDS WONDERFUL.
JUST SAY VACATION INSTEAD OF VACA... PLEASE?
THANKS FOR THE RIDE.
NO PROBLEM. ACTUALLY...
...TO BE HONEST, I DON'T WANT TO BE AWAY FROM YOU JUST YET.
WHY DON'T WE GO UP TO YOUR PLACE FOR A CUP OF COFFEE?
WOW, THAT WAS STRAIGHTFORWARD. AND FAST.
AH... WELL...
...I... HAVE A DOG.
A DOG?
YEAH... MOMO. SHE'S A GOOD LITTLE DOG... JUST... VERY SHY.
SHE'S STILL AT THE STAGE WHERE SHE MIGHT BITE A STRANGER...
THAT'S NO PROBLEM. I LIKE ANIMALS.
BUT... MY FRIEND HAD TO BE TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL LAST TIME... (TO DELIVER A BABY, THAT IS.)
THE HOSPITAL ?!

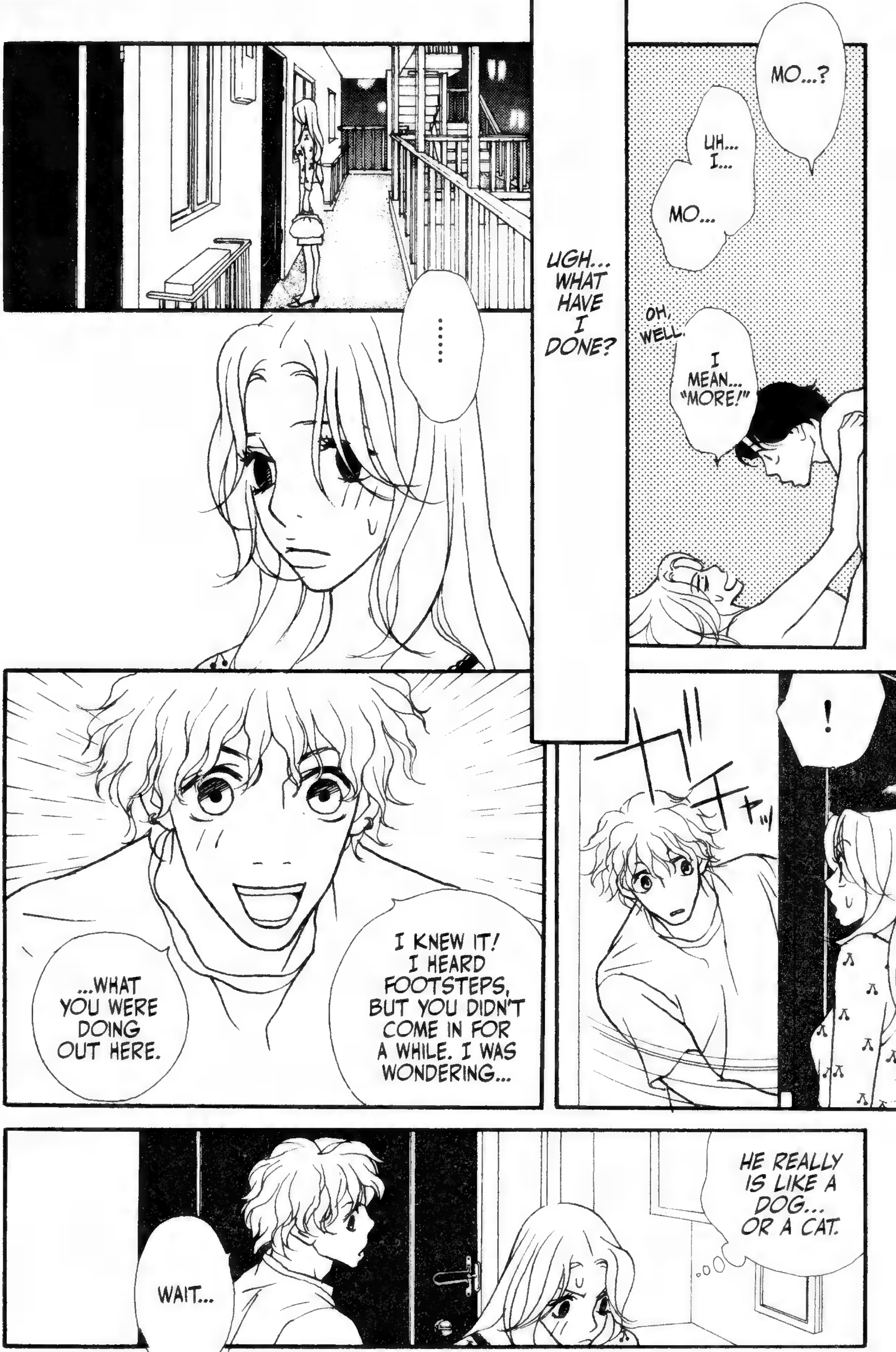

DANCE THEATRE 2001
PERFORMANCE?
WELL... THAT WAS AS FAR AS YOU NORMALLY GO ON THE SECOND DATE, I THINK.
WAS THAT TOO OBVIOUS?
THAT'S PRETTY SCARY.
OKAY. I'LL GO HOME THIS TIME.
HMM...
COME TO SEE ME... PLEASE?
YEP. I GOT THE PART OF THE ANGEL. AND I HAVE A SOLO DANCE!
I CAN'T PROMISE ANYTHING AROUND THAT TIME. I'M IN CHARGE OF A BIG ARTICLE IN THIS FEATURE SPREAD...
AWW...
I'M MORE RESPONSIBLE THAN A SPOILED KID LIKE YOU WILL EVER BE!
OF COURSE WORK COMES FIRST.
WHAT?! WHERE ARE YOUR PRIORITIES?
...WHAT KIND OF EXCUSE IS THAT?! I MEAN, IT'D BE ONE THING IF YOU SAID, "I HAVE A DATE"... BUT "I HAVE WORK"?

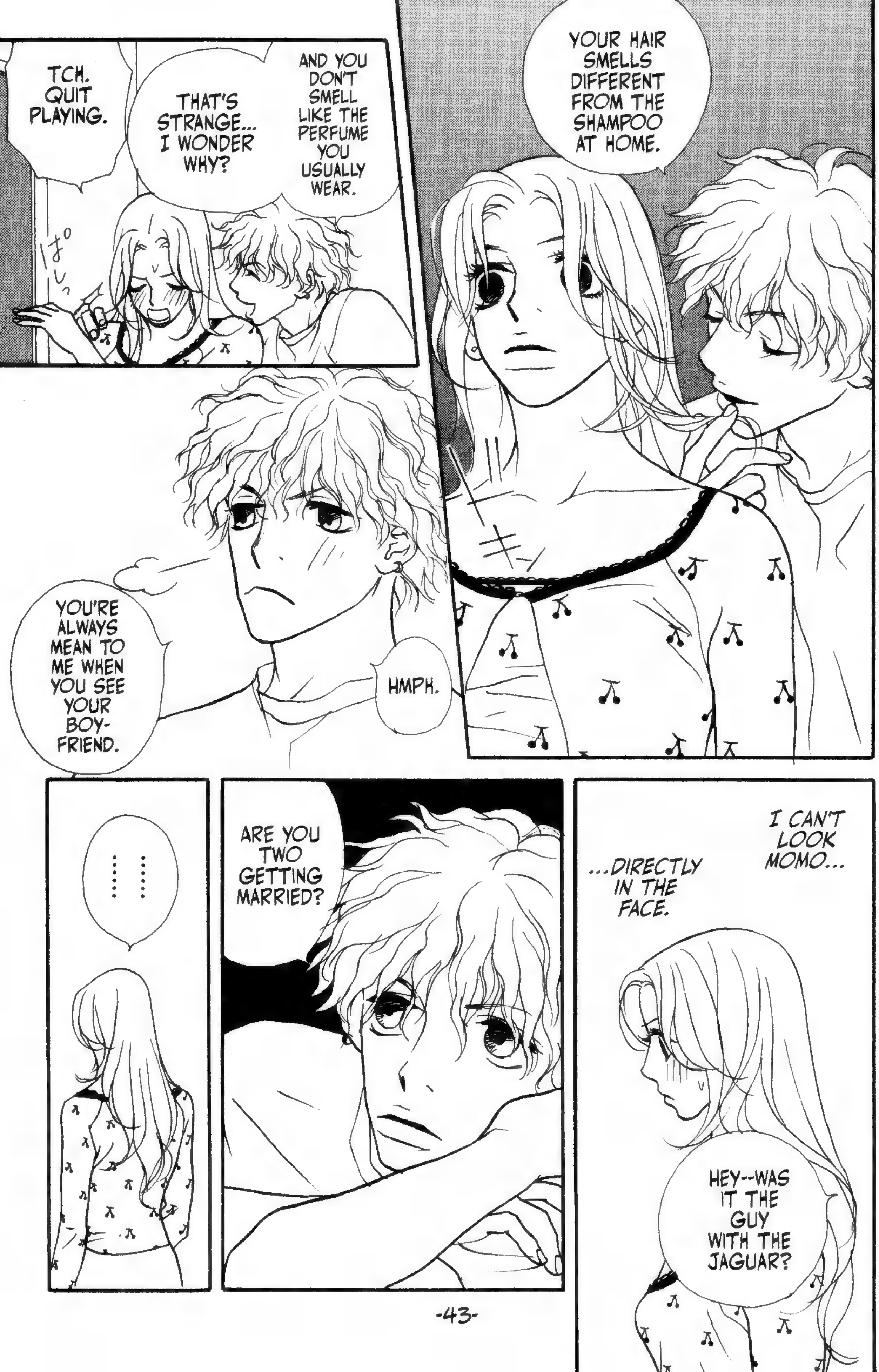
SORRY. THAT WAS PROBABLY A LITTLE HARSH.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'VE BEEN KIND OF IRRITABLE LATELY.
WHAT? YOU'RE TELLING ME ALL TABLES ARE TAKEN?
THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE. I'M SURE I MADE A RESERVATION FOR SEVEN O'CLOCK.
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, SIGNORE. IF YOU COULD WAIT JUST 20 MINUTES--
NO, THAT'S FINE. WE'LL TAKE OUR BUSINESS ELSEWHERE.
I'M SO SORRY!
I WOULDN'T HAVE MINDED WAITING 20 MINUTES.
DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT MY OPINION?
HEY-- HELLO?
UNBELIEVABLE...

IT'S FRIDAY NIGHT. ANYWHERE WE GO, WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT...
......
IT'S LIKE HE'S A DIFFERENT PERSON.
WELL... I DON'T MIND NOT GOING TO AN ITALIAN RESTAURANT...
......
キョロ
キョロ
ONE HOUR LATER
BY THE TIME WE FOUND A TABLE AT ANOTHER ITALIAN RESTAURANT AND GOT SOME FOOD...
...HIS TRANSFORMATION WAS COMPLETE.
YOU EAT LIKE A BIRD, MISS IWAYA.
YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT DESSERT?
THIS IS DEFINITELY THE TYPE OF GUY WHO PLACES PHYSICAL NEEDS OVER ANYTHING ELSE...
...NOT THAT THAT'S A BAD THING.
I'M SURE.
WOW. LOOK AT ALL THIS FOOD...
IT'S HEALTHY...
A BIT OF PUSHINESS CAN BE GOOD IN A MAN.
THEN AGAIN...

I HAVE INDIGESTION.
ARE YOU OKAY...?
I HAVE NO REASON TO REFUSE HIM...
...HE MEETS ALL MY REQUIREMENTS.
PANT
PANT
HEY... HOW'S THIS?
YOU LIKE...?
SPEAK UP. SAY SOMETHING.
......
WHY...?
IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE PRACTICING A SPORT.

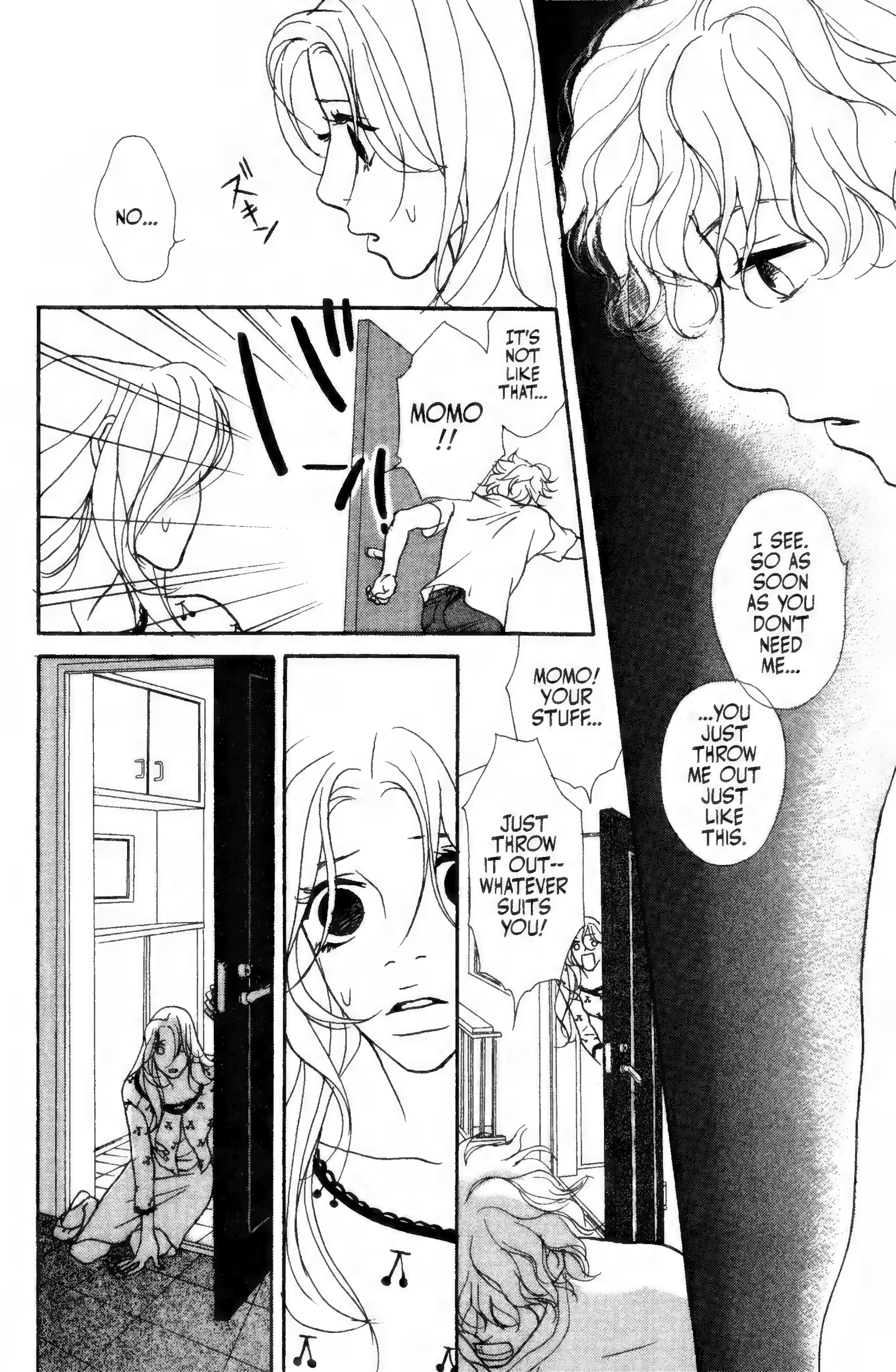
WHEN SOMEONE EXPECTS A REACTION FROM ME, I GET SO ABSORBED IN TRYING TO SATISFY THEM...
...I CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON ENJOYING MYSELF. IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT... AT WORK, IN MY STUDIES... AND...
MOMO WOULDN'T ASK SUCH THINGS.
HE KNOWS HOW WEAK I AM UNDER PRESSURE.
AHHH... (SHE'S ACTING)
I WONDER HOW I'D ACT WITH MOMO...?
IF THIS WAS MOMO...
AH.
SUMIRE.
MOMO.
AH... AHH.
MO...


MO...?
UH... I...
MO...
OH, WELL.
I MEAN... "MORE!"
UGH... WHAT HAVE I DONE?
......
!
I KNEW IT! I HEARD FOOTSTEPS, BUT YOU DIDN'T COME IN FOR A WHILE. I WAS WONDERING...
...WHAT YOU WERE DOING OUT HERE.
HE REALLY IS LIKE A DOG... OR A CAT.
WAIT...


YOUR HAIR SMELLS DIFFERENT FROM THE SHAMPOO AT HOME.
AND YOU DON'T SMELL LIKE THE PERFUME YOU USUALLY WEAR.
THAT'S STRANGE... I WONDER WHY?
TCH. QUIT PLAYING.
HMPH.
YOU'RE ALWAYS MEAN TO ME WHEN YOU SEE YOUR BOY-FRIEND.
I CAN'T LOOK MOMO...
...DIRECTLY IN THE FACE.
HEY--WAS IT THE GUY WITH THE JAGUAR?
ARE YOU TWO GETTING MARRIED?
......

WILL YOU KEEP ME AFTER YOU'RE MARRIED?
DON'T BE SILLY! THERE'S NO WAY I COULD DO THAT.
ちぇー
NO...?
SCRUB
SCRUB
NO--I'M JUST CONFUSED. MOMO IS JUST A PET-- MOMO IS A PET. MOMO IS A PET. MOMO IS...

THUMP
THUMP
MOMO...
THUMP
PLEASE...
...MOVE OUT.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I NEED TO BE HAPPY.
I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF YOU FOREVER.
BESIDES, I CAN'T INVITE MY BOYFRIENDS OVER IF YOU'RE HERE... RIGHT?
EVEN IF WE WANTED TO CONTINUE THIS... IT'S CAN'T BE GOOD FOR US.


I SEE. SO AS SOON AS YOU DON'T NEED ME...
...YOU JUST THROW ME OUT JUST LIKE THIS.
NO...
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
MOMO !!
MOMO! YOUR STUFF...
JUST THROW IT OUT-- WHATEVER SUITS YOU!

ホケーーッ
HERE'S A PROOF, MISS IWAYA!
HUH?
A PROOF! ALSO, THE IMAGE-PROCESSING DEPARTMENT WANTS TO KNOW IF YOU'VE FORWARDED THEM THE DATA.
UH... OKAY.
WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW THE DETAILS... BUT IT SEEMS HER PET RAN AWAY.
I SEE... SO SHE'S SUFFERING FROM THE LOSS OF HER... CAT, WAS IT?
THIS IS YOU, ISN'T IT?

WERE YOU SPYING ON ME...?
NOT ME... MY MOTHER.
EVER SINCE I TOLD HER I'D FOUND SOMEONE I WANTED TO MARRY.
YOU... TOLD ME YOU LIVED WITH YOUR PET.
I DIDN'T LIE.
HE IS MY PET.
YOU... YOU'RE SUCH A BITCH!!

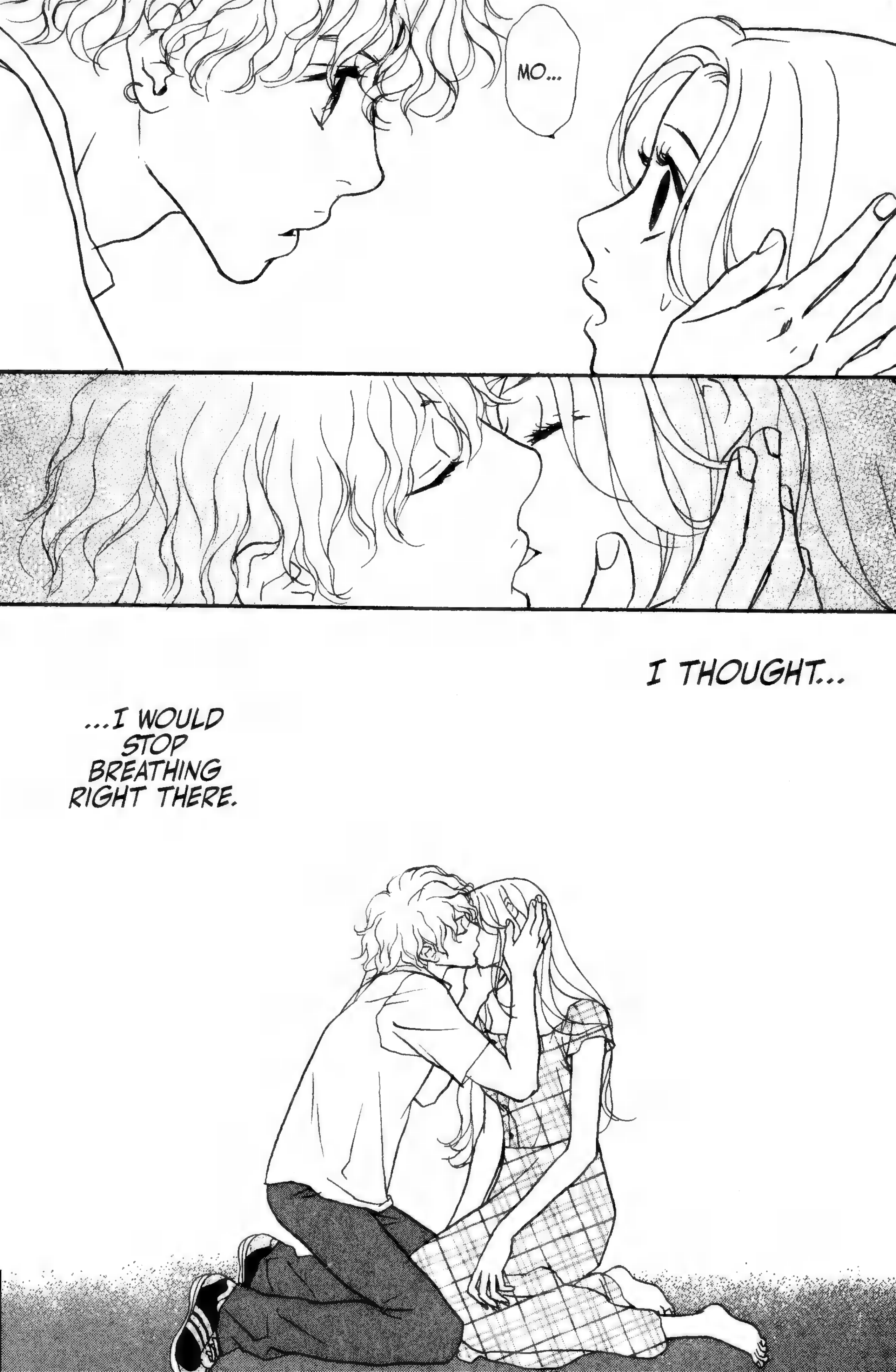
YES... I AM A BITCH.
IT'S SILLY.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ANYMORE.
ANY MORE TICKETS FOR TONIGHT?
SURE. HERE YOU GO.

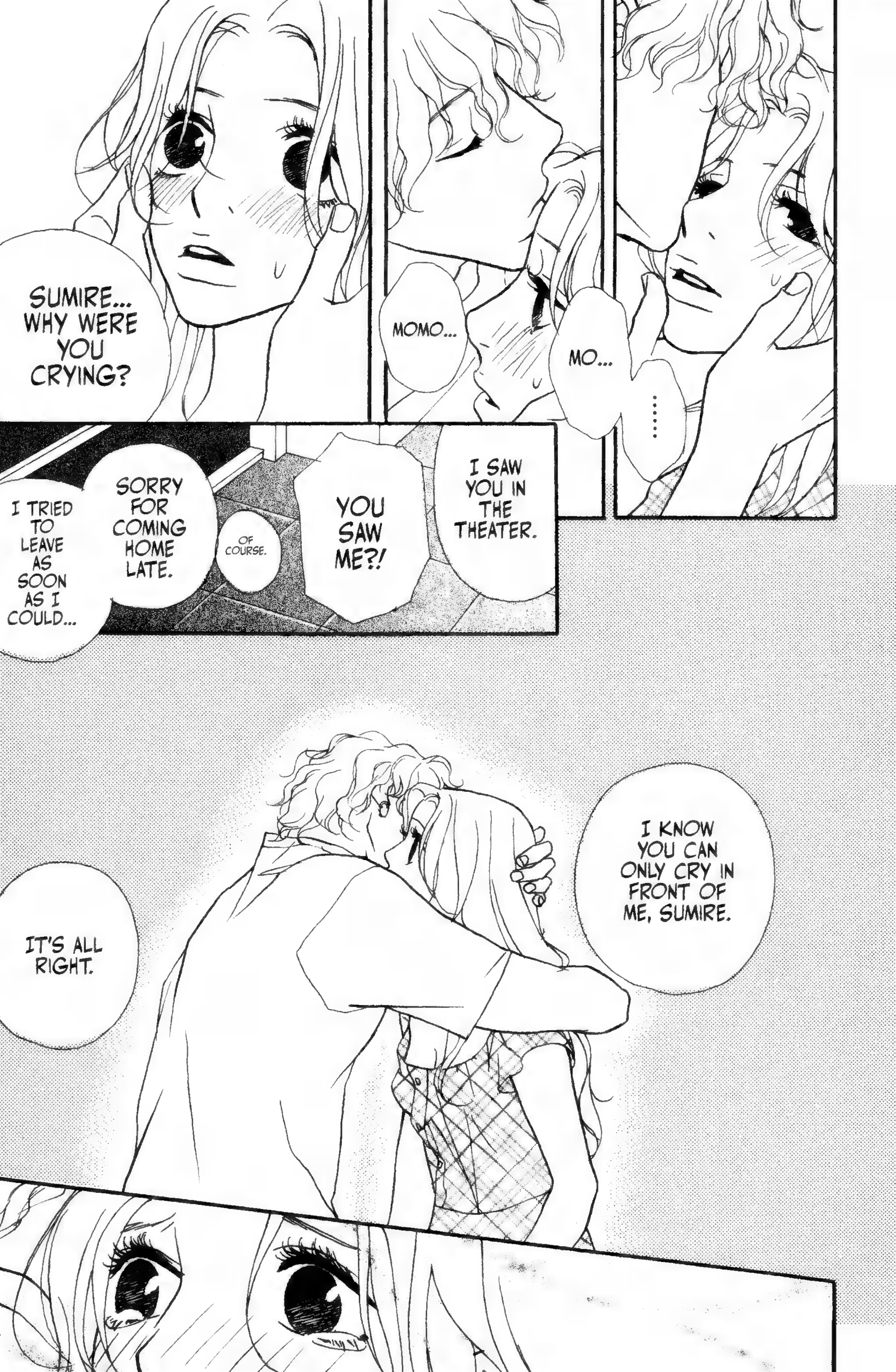
OH.
THAT'S MOMO.
MOMO... THE ANGEL.
HE LOOKS LIKE HE WOULD FORGIVE YOU ANYTHING... EVERY IMPURITY... AND THEN REDEEM YOU.

BEAUTIFUL, MOMO.
HOW HARD WERE YOU PRACTICING, WHILE I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE?
I'M THE ONE...
...WHO WAS SPOILED.

HELLO.
MOMO ?!
...SUMIRE...
UGH-- NOT HIM.
AND SINCE WHEN DOES HE CALL ME SUMIRE!
I KNOW WE HAD SOME KIND OF MISUNDER-STANDING...
...BUT I'M SURE WE CAN WORK IT OUT.
HUFF...
YOU'RE NOT THAT KIND OF GIRL, ARE YOU?
I KNOW YOU WELL ENOUGH.
HUFF...
YOU JUST NEED A GOOD SPANKING...
RIGHT?
HUFF...
HUFF...

SO CREEPY !!!
あわわわ
I... I LOST MY BALANCE...
WHAT? WHO ARE YOU?!
OW!
W... WHAT'S GOING ON...?

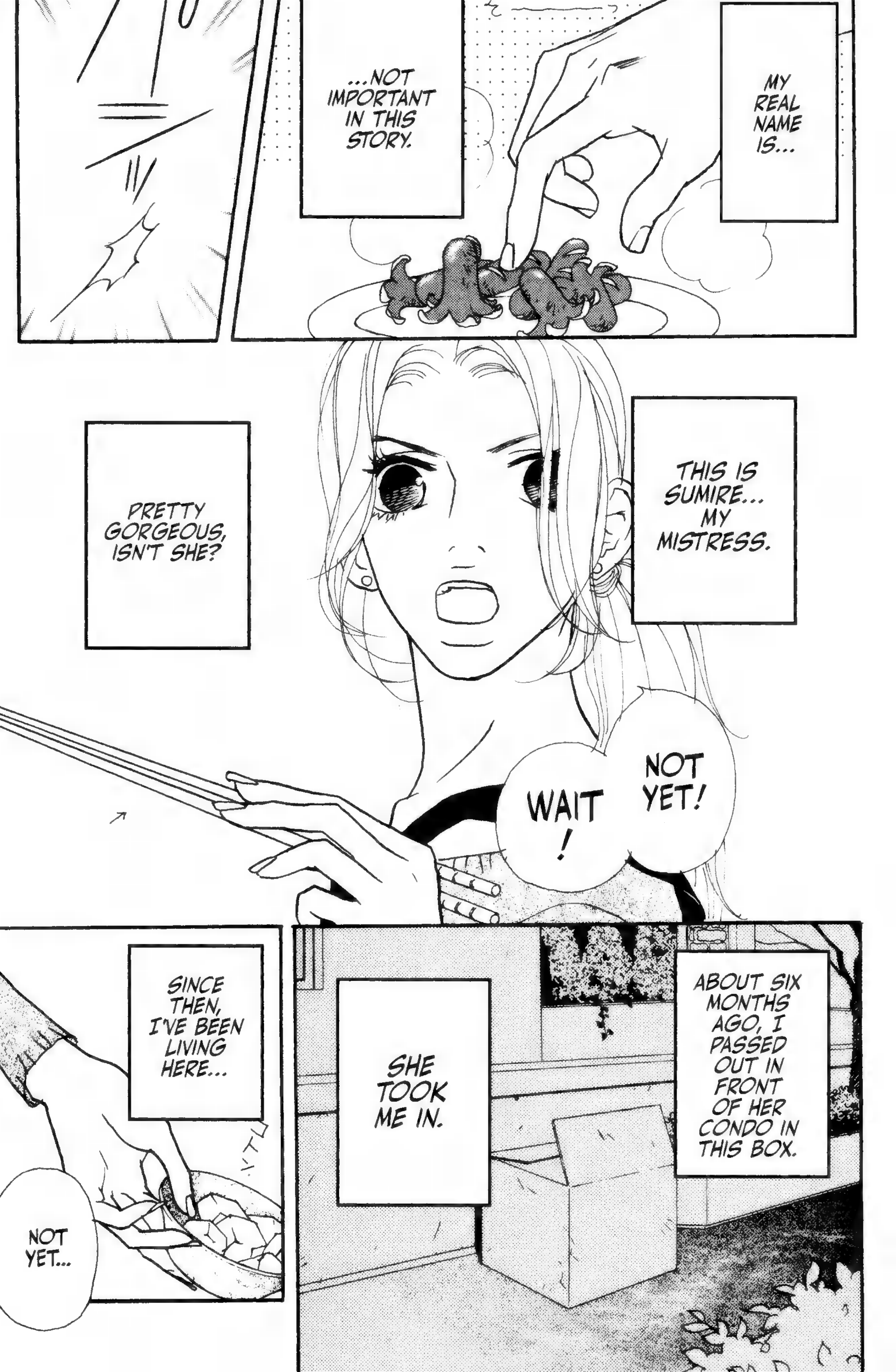

MO...
I THOUGHT...
...I WOULD STOP BREATHING RIGHT THERE.


MO...
......
MOMO...
SUMIRE... WHY WERE YOU CRYING?
I SAW YOU IN THE THEATER.
YOU SAW ME?!
OF COURSE.
SORRY FOR COMING HOME LATE.
I TRIED TO LEAVE AS SOON AS I COULD...
I KNOW YOU CAN ONLY CRY IN FRONT OF ME, SUMIRE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

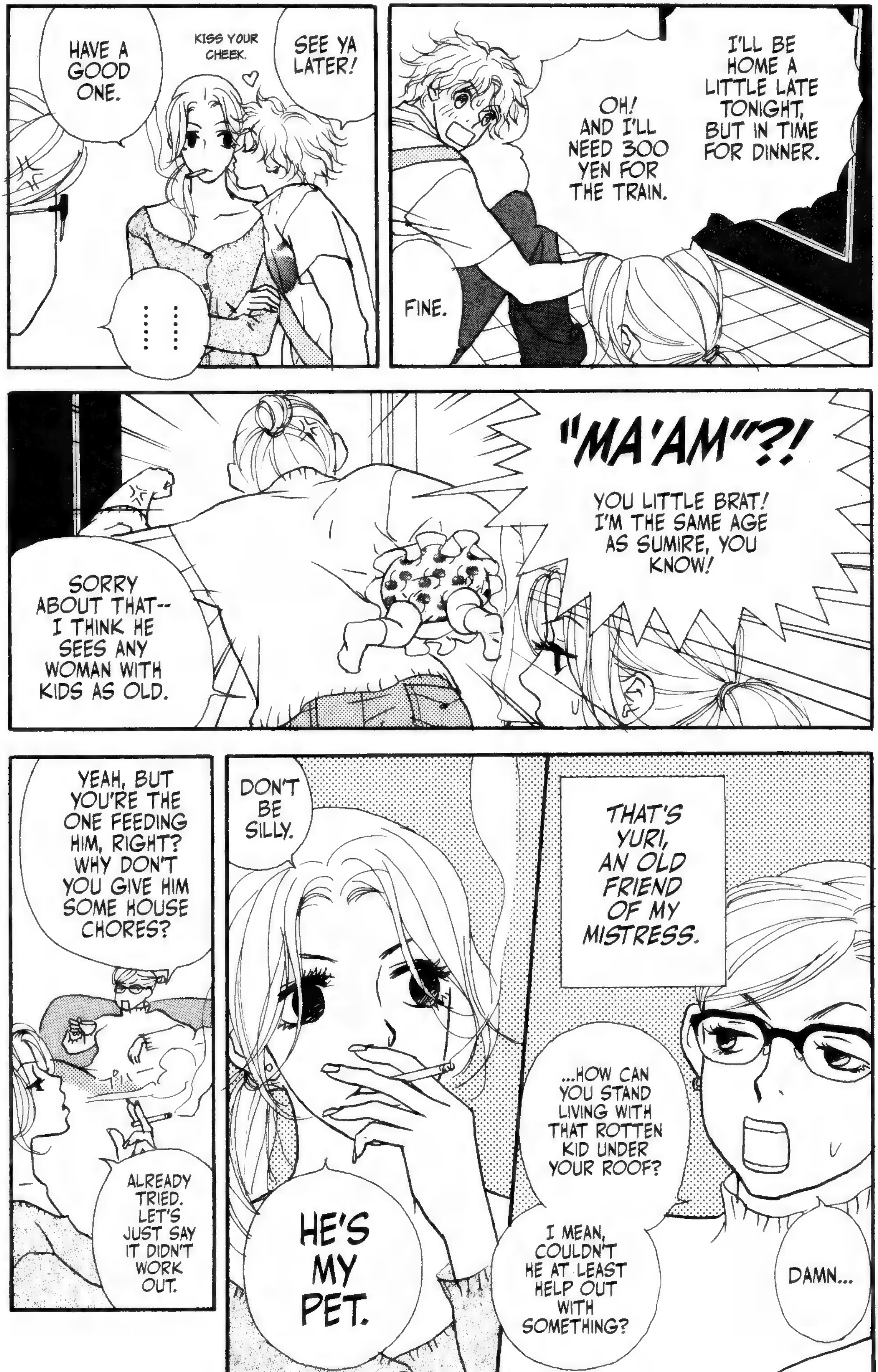
MOMO...
...I LIKE YOU SO MUCH...
I KNEW THAT...
...SHE LIKED ME AS MUCH AS SHE LOVED HER OLD DOG, MOMO.
BUT THAT MAY CHANGE, LITTLE BY LITTLE, NOW THAT I'M WITH HER ALL THE TIME.
THAT'S IT... LITTLE BY LITTLE.

RULE 2:
HAPPINESS IS MAKING A WILLFUL PET WAIT

Do you love me
MY NAME IS MOMO.
OF COURSE, THAT'S NOT MY REAL NAME. I WAS BORN FROM ORDINARY PARENTS, AFTER ALL.


MY REAL NAME IS...
...NOT IMPORTANT IN THIS STORY.
THIS IS SUMIRE... MY MISTRESS.
PRETTY GORGEOUS, ISN'T SHE?
NOT YET!
WAIT!
ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO, I PASSED OUT IN FRONT OF HER CONDO IN THIS BOX.
SHE TOOK ME IN.
SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN LIVING HERE...
NOT YET...

...AS HER PET.
OKAY!
HOLA.
HOLA.
HEY THERE.
DID YOU FIND A PARKING SPOT?
YEP.
JUST DROPPED IN TO CHECK OUT THIS BEAUTIFUL BOY OF YOURS.
BEAUTIFUL BOY? OH...
...YOU MEAN MOMO?
PARDON ME, MA'AM, BUT I NEED TO GO.



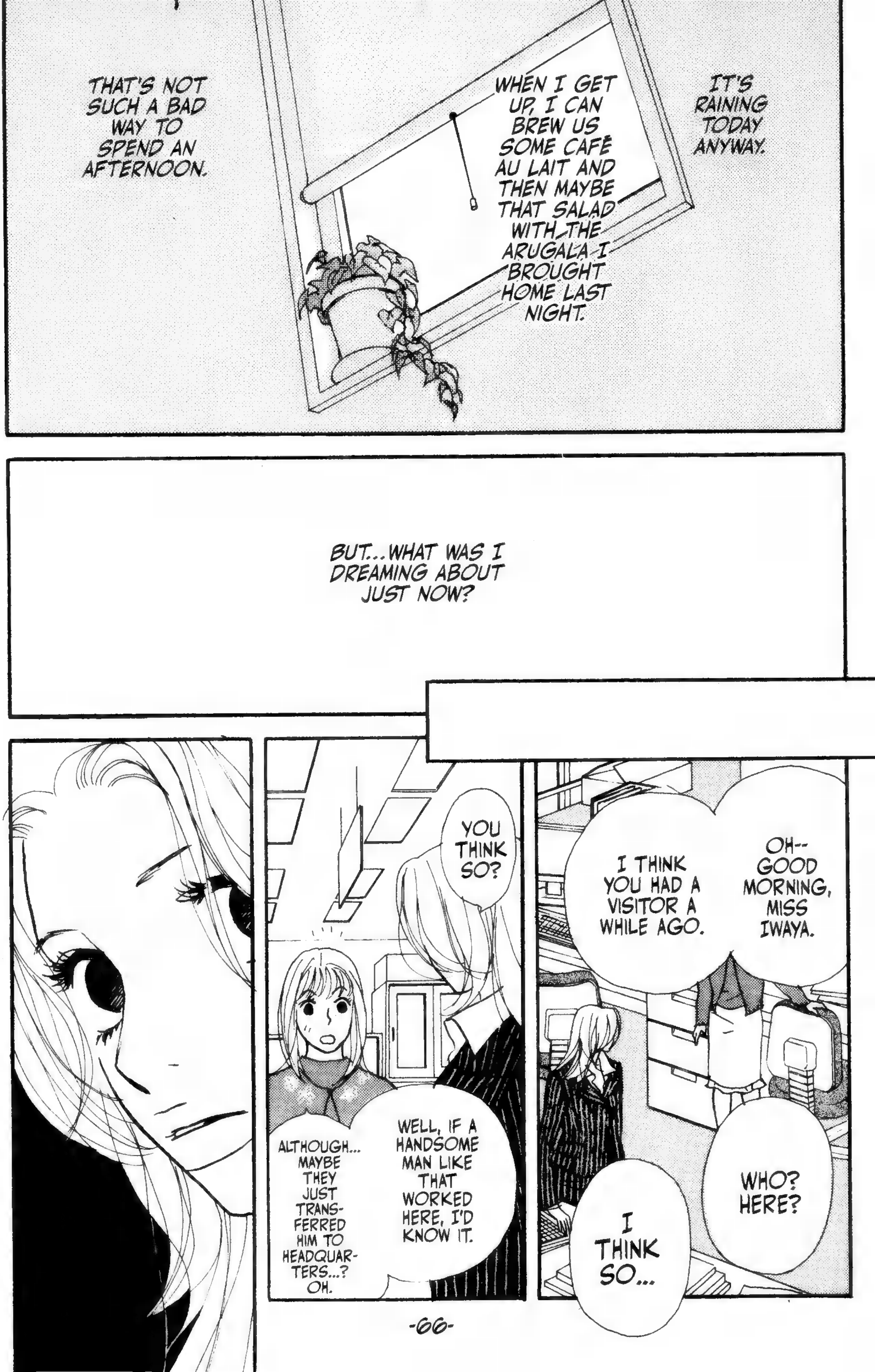
SEE YA LATER!
KISS YOUR CHEEK.
HAVE A GOOD ONE.
......
I'LL BE HOME A LITTLE LATE TONIGHT, BUT IN TIME FOR DINNER.
OH! AND I'LL NEED 300 YEN FOR THE TRAIN.
FINE.
"MA'AM"?!
YOU LITTLE BRAT! I'M THE SAME AGE AS SUMIRE, YOU KNOW!
SORRY ABOUT THAT-- I THINK HE SEES ANY WOMAN WITH KIDS AS OLD.
THAT'S YURI, AN OLD FRIEND OF MY MISTRESS.
DON'T BE SILLY.
YEAH, BUT YOU'RE THE ONE FEEDING HIM, RIGHT? WHY DON'T YOU GIVE HIM SOME HOUSE CHORES?
ALREADY TRIED. LET'S JUST SAY IT DIDN'T WORK OUT.
DAMN...
...HOW CAN YOU STAND LIVING WITH THAT ROTTEN KID UNDER YOUR ROOF?
I MEAN, COULDN'T HE AT LEAST HELP OUT WITH SOMETHING?
HE'S MY PET.

WHEN I TRIED TO MAKE HIM CLEAN...
UH, SUMIRE-- THIS WASN'T A SPECIAL DISH, WAS IT?
UM... ACTUALLY, THAT WAS REAL CHINA... AS YOU KNOW...
WHEN I TRIED TO MAKE HIM COOK...
HEY! WHY DON'T WE ORDER PIZZA TONIGHT?!
UH, SURE... BUT WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS SMOKE?
もう
もう
I THOUGHT HE COULD AT LEAST DO SOME ERRANDS.
IN THE YELLOW FILE ON MY DESK, OKAY?
THEN, TAKE THE HANZOMON LINE AND GET OFF AT OTEMACHI STATION. GOT IT?
TOTALLY.
BUT OF COURSE, HE WAS JUST AS USELESS THERE.
WAAHHH...
SUMIRE... WHERE AM I...?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
I GUESS I'D BE PRETTY PISSED OFF IF HE WAS MY BOYFRIEND... BUT HE'S JUST MY PET.
AS LONG AS HE STAYS HOUSE-BROKEN, I CAN'T COMPLAIN.
HOUSEBROKEN...
I SEE.
WELL, I GUESS IT'S OKAY... AS LONG AS YOU'RE OKAY.
クスッ
HEY, I'M NOT PLANNING ON BRINGING HOME ANY GUYS FOR A WHILE.
MY WORK AND MY PET...
THOSE TWO ARE ENOUGH TO KEEP ME SATISFIED FOR NOW.

*SUMIRE MEANS ***VIOLET*** IN ENGLISH.

ずしっ
WHAT TIME IS IT...? UGH... LEAVE ME ALONE!
FEED ME, SUMIRE! I'M STARRR-VIIINNNG! MOMO... NEEDS FOOD... BADLY!
I'VE ONLY HAD THREE HOURS' SLEEP...!
BUT IT'S ALREADY NOON. I'M HUNGRY!
NO... GIMME A BREAK... LEMME SLEEP S'MORE.
FINE... BUT ME TOO.
WHAT ...?
GET OUT OF MY BED!
NO.

WOW, IT'S SO WARM IN HERE ♡
WORLD'S CUTEST BEAM
WHAT CHOICE DO I HAVE?
HEY, DON'T FALL OFF THE EDGE. COME CLOSER.
OKAY.


IT'S RAINING TODAY ANYWAY.
WHEN I GET UP, I CAN BREW US SOME CAFÉ AU LAIT AND THEN MAYBE THAT SALAD WITH THE ARUGALA I BROUGHT HOME LAST NIGHT.
THAT'S NOT SUCH A BAD WAY TO SPEND AN AFTERNOON.
BUT...WHAT WAS I DREAMING ABOUT JUST NOW?
OH-- GOOD MORNING, MISS IWAYA.
I THINK YOU HAD A VISITOR A WHILE AGO.
WHO? HERE?
I THINK SO...
YOU THINK SO?
WELL, IF A HANDSOME MAN LIKE THAT WORKED HERE, I'D KNOW IT.
ALTHOUGH... MAYBE THEY JUST TRANSFERRED HIM TO HEADQUARTERS...? OH.

MISS IWAYA...?
I REMEMBER A POEM THAT USED THE STARS AS A METAPHOR FOR SUMIRE.
BUT I DON'T REMEMBER WHOSE IT WAS.
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID THE FIRST TIME I TOLD HIM MY NAME.
I KNEW IT WAS WORDSWORTH RIGHT AWAY, BUT I DIDN'T SAY SO.
I WAS AFRAID HE'D THINK I WAS BEING ARROGANT... SHOWING OFF.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D FELT THAT WAY.
SENPAI... HASUMI?
DID YOU COME FROM THE BRANCH OFFICE?
OR--NO-- YOU WERE IN HONG KONG!
YEP. JUST GOT BACK YESTERDAY. HAVEN'T EVEN UNPACKED.
BUT I HAD NO IDEA I'D BE SEEING YOU AGAIN...AT LEAST NOT HERE!
IT'S BEEN EIGHT YEARS...
I HEARD YOU WERE IN THE FOREIGN NEWS DEPARTMENT. BUT YOU WEREN'T THERE.
I... I'M SORRY...
SHE WAS DEMOTED.
WELL, SINCE WE'RE BOTH WORKING AT HEADQUARTERS NOW...
...WE'LL PROBABLY BE SEEING EACH OTHER QUITE OFTEN.
GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

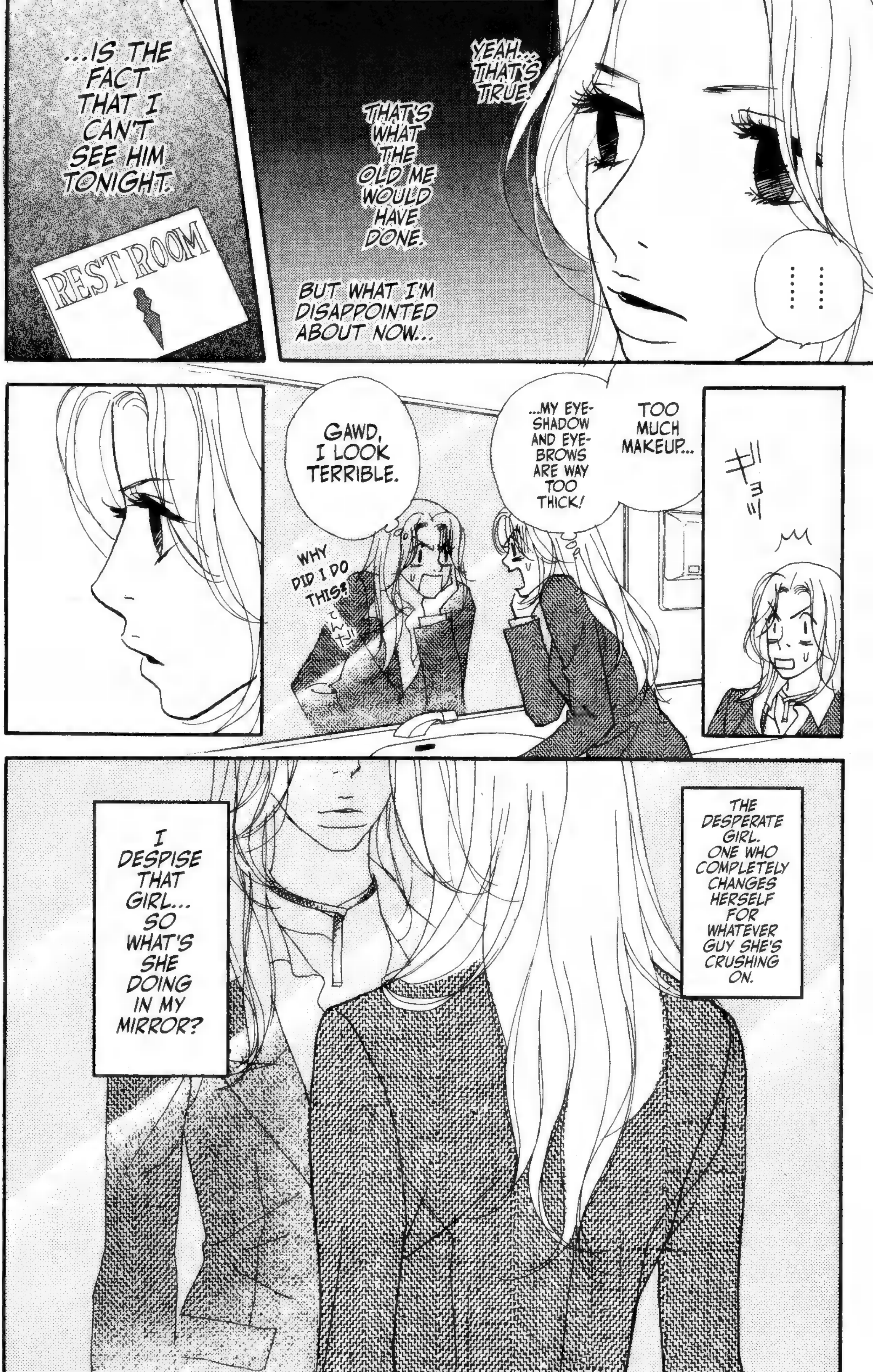
THAT HANDSOME GUY WAS AN UPPERCLASSMAN OF MISS IWAYA AT COLLEGE.
NO KIDDING... I WONDER IF SHE'LL INTRODUCE ME?
OH, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT. YOU SEE, I DON'T THINK...
...THEY WERE EXACTLY JUST FRIENDS IN COLLEGE. KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
OOH, REALLY?
ガチャガチャ
バターン
WELCOME... SUMIRE!
タタタタ
スッ
スカッ
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? ARE YOU OKAY?
ジタ
バタ
NOOOOO...
...I'M GONNA DIE IF YOU DON'T REST MY HEAD ON YOUR LAP!
WELL...
MAYBE LATER. I'M TOO TIRED RIGHT NOW.

BUT SUMIRE... YOUR FAVORITE SHOW IS ON TV!
LET'S WATCH IT TOGETHER!
A RERUN!
YAY!
ボー
UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO
......
ぱっ
AND NOW FOR THIS WEEK'S CRAAAZY CONTRAPTION...
ボー
YADA, YADA, YADA, MAN...
SUMIRE... YOU DON'T HAVE A FEVER, DO YOU?
ARE YOU OUT OF CIGARETTES? WANT ME TO GET YOU SOME MORE?
HUH?
YOU HAVEN'T SMOKED ALL DAY!
OH...
...GUESS I FORGOT.

COOK PANCAKES
APPROVAL
GOOD BOY!
HOTCAKE
ホットケーキ ミックス
ドーン
ガラガラ
ガジャーン
OH MY GOD-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! STOP IT!
SU- SUMIRE--!
I'M SORRY-- I WAS JUST--
DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO TOUCH ANYTHING IN THE KITCHEN?!
DAMN IT... THERE'S FLOUR EVERYWHERE!
GOOD BOY!
ガーン
......
YOUR SULKING'S NOT GONNA WORK THIS TIME!

MISS IWAYA, ARE YOU FREE TOMORROW NIGHT?
WHY? WHAT'S UP?
SOME OF US ARE GOING OUT FOR DRINKS TOMORROW NIGHT, BUT I'M THE ONLY GIRL.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME ALONG?
OH-- AND YOU'RE PRETTY CLOSE WITH HASUMI-KUN IN THE FOREIGN NEWS DEPARTMENT, RIGHT?
WE WERE THINKING OF ASKING HIM TOO.
Pub
THEN, WHILE HE'S ON HIS EVENING PATROL...
NO-- REALLY? THAT'S UNBELIEVABLE!
HASUMI-KUN'S LATE.
MAYBE HE'S HELPING THEM GET THE MORNING PAPER OUT?
BUT HE SAID HE JUST FINISHED HIS NIGHT SHIFT...
MAY I HELP YOU?

HEY, HELLO.
HASUMI?
OH.
I SEE.
SURE.
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.
THERE'S BEEN AN AIR-PLANE HIJACK AND SOME JAPANESE PASSENGERS ARE INVOLVED.
I GOTTA GO BACK TO THE OFFICE AND HELP THEM PUT TOGETHER A STORY.
OH-- I'LL COME WITH YOU.
ARE YOU DISAP-POINTED?
HUH?!
THAT YOU'RE NOT WORKING WITH THE FOREIGN NEWS DEPART-MENT ANY-MORE.
YOU'D HAVE RUSHED OUT FASTER THAN ANYONE IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED BACK THEN, HUH?
MY LEGS SUDDENLY FELT HEAVY LIKE LEAD.


YEAH... THAT'S TRUE.
THAT'S WHAT THE OLD ME WOULD HAVE DONE.
BUT WHAT I'M DISAPPOINTED ABOUT NOW...
...IS THE FACT THAT I CAN'T SEE HIM TONIGHT.
REST ROOM
TOO MUCH MAKEUP...
...MY EYE-SHADOW AND EYE-BROWS ARE WAY TOO THICK!
GAWD, I LOOK TERRIBLE.
WHY DID I DO THIS?
THE DESPERATE GIRL. ONE WHO COMPLETELY CHANGES HERSELF FOR WHATEVER GUY SHE'S CRUSHING ON.
I DESPISE THAT GIRL... SO WHAT'S SHE DOING IN MY MIRROR?

"THE FIRST MAN"...
HOW SENTIMENTAL.
I'M HOME!
MASTER'S HERE!
HAVE YOU BEEN GOOD? HUH?
THAT'S MY CUTIE.
PET PET
UGH. YOU SMELL LIKE BOOZE!!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH MY MISTRESS?!
NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING. ♡
BOOBIES
HEY, SUMIRE-- SHOES! YOU'RE STILL WEARING YOUR SHOES!
PLUS YOU'RE HURTING ME.
CAMEL CRUTCH! ♡

ズルー
UGH... YOU'RE SO HEAVY.
WHAT? YOU'RE A MAN, AREN'T YOU?
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M BUILT FOR HEAVY LIFTING.
ばたっ
TAKE OFF MY SHOES.
WHEEZE... WHEEZE...
WHAT ABOUT YOUR JACKET?
TAKE THAT OFF, TOO.
WHY DON'T I JUST TAKE OFF EVERYTHING, BITCH?
FINE.
YOU COULD DO IT TO ME NOW, YOU KNOW.
THAT'S HOW GOOD I FEEL.

SHE'S DRUNK.
NOT TONIGHT.
REALLY? THEN... WHEN SHOULD WE DO IT?
LET'S SEE...
HOW ABOUT WHEN YOU CALL MY NAME?
NAME...?
BUT... YOUR NAME IS... MOMO...
......
NO, SUMIRE. THAT'S MY PET NAME.
WHICH MEANS THAT TOMORROW MORNING...
キュポ
...I'M BACK TO BEING JUST YOUR PET.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I GUESS WE SHOULD WAIT A WHILE LONGER.
フキ フキ
UGH...
ARITA PARIS CLEANSING LOTION

ZZZ...
OH, MY.
NO MAKEUP.
ZZZ...
SHE LOOKS SO DEFENSELESS.
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T STOP BEING HER PET.
SO THIS IS WHAT THEY MEAN BY "PRECIOUS MOMENTS."
Z

SOYA MILK
HANG-OVER...
UGH...
I REMEMBER GOING TO MY ROOM... BUT AFTER THAT...
MY MAKEUP CAME OFF SOMEHOW.
ONLY ONE NEW MESSAGE.
SORRY... I DUG UP YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION.
NO PROBLEM. WORK MAIL ISN'T REALLY PRIVATE.
MY REASON WAS PRIVATE, THOUGH.
AHA HA!
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO ASK YOU TO DINNER FOR A WHILE NOW.
BY THE WAY... YOU HAVE A CAT, RIGHT?
HUH?
ONE OF THE PART-TIME GIRLS TOLD ME YOU HAD THIS THING FOR YOUR CAT.

ドキ
ドキ
I DIDN'T KNOW THEY THOUGHT IT WAS A CAT.
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT BRINGING MY DOG HOME. HE'S BEEN STAYING WITH MY PARENTS FOR A WHILE NOW...
IT'S KINDA HARD TO TAKE CARE OF A PET WITH THIS JOB, YOU KNOW? SO MUCH TRAVEL...
AH... WELL...
...WHAT ABOUT KEIKO?
WHILE YOU WERE IN AMERICA, A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED BETWEEN KEIKO AND ME.
WE CALLED OFF...
...OUR WEDDING.
ACTUALLY, I BROKE UP WITH HER RIGHT AFTER... YOU KNOW.

"YOU KNOW."
AFTER THAT NIGHT, YOU MEAN...
SO...
OH.
GO AHEAD.
NO. YOU FIRST.
MUST SWITCH TOPIC TO SOMETHING SAFER.
I DON'T REALLY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THIS.
WOW... IT'S GETTING LATE.
ARE YOU READY TO GO?

THOSE ARE SOME STEEP STAIRS.
BE CAREFUL, MISS IWAYA--
KYAAH!
OOPS...
DOWN SHE GOES.
NO, I'M OKAY. REALLY-- I'M FINE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU CAN'T WALK ON THAT LEG WITHOUT A CANE OR A CRUTCH.
GOOD THING YOU DIDN'T HIT YOUR HEAD.
YEAH...
?

YOU SEEM SO MATURE AND STRONG, MISS IWAYA...
...BUT SOMETIMES YOU DO SOME PRETTY STUPID THINGS.
I MEAN, YOU NORMALLY HAVE SUCH GOOD REFLEXES...
...BUT REMEMBER THAT TIME IN COLLEGE WHEN YOU FELL IN THE POND?
NOT TO MENTION THE TIME YOU MISTOOK A CHOWCHOW FOR A LION--
UH, EXCUSE ME...
...THAT'S ENOUGH, OKAY?
I THINK I'M SUFFICIENTLY BURNING WITH SHAME.
SORRY TO BE ALL THIS TROUBLE...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, THE PAIN'S ALMOST GONE.
YEAH, THE PAIN'S ALMOST GONE...
BUT I'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF MOMO'S HOME.
WELL... SEE YOU AROUND.
......

WAIT.
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING ALL EVENING.
NO-- EVER SINCE I HEARD YOU JOINED THE KODAN NEWSPAPER COMPANY.
EVERY TIME WE PASSED EACH OTHER AT WORK, I WAS DETERMINED TO TELL YOU THE NEXT TIME.
EVEN WHEN I WAS DRUNK, I NEVER FORGOT IT.
IT WASN'T JUST SOME ACCIDENT...

...THAT I SLEPT WITH YOU.
NO...
...KIDDING.
WAIT. WE CAN'T DO IT HERE.
TELL HIM NO. NOW.
BUT...
...BUT...
HE'S SUCH A GREAT KISSER...
NOT APPROPRIATE.
BOW-WOW!!!

BOW-WOW!
BOW-WOW! BOW-WOW!
MOMO!! SHUT THE HELL UP!!
WHAT...?
I'M SORRY-- MY DOG IS JUST SO EXCITABLE.
YOUR... DOG?
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY GO NOW...!
DIDN'T YOU SAY IT WAS A CAT...?
OH! DID I SAY THAT?
HONEST MISTAKE.
WELL, SEE YOU AT WORK, I GUESS!
THANKS SO MUCH FOR DINNER TONIGHT. ♡
NNNGGHH...
UH, OKAY...
......
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU WERE GONNA BE HOME, YOU PEEPING BRAT?!
UGH--WAAHHH!
'CUZ-- 'CUZ--

WHAT IS THAT LOOK?
DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?
--I WAS TAKING A NAP! THEN I WOKE UP AND SAW YOU WITH THAT GUY, DOING SOMETHING DIRTY.
DON'T CALL IT DIRTY!!
AND FOR GOD'S SAKE--NAPPING SHOULD BE DONE IN THE *DAYTIME!* THIS IS *NIGHT!*
THAT'S IT! I'M ERASING ALL THE K-1 SHOWS THAT I TAPED FOR YOU!
ダッ
BBAM!
WHAT?! DON'T BE SILLY.
YOU'RE A LIAR, SUMIRE...
YOU TOLD ME THAT YOU DIDN'T NEED GUYS RIGHT NOW...
WHAT WAS THAT? CAN'T HEAR YOU.
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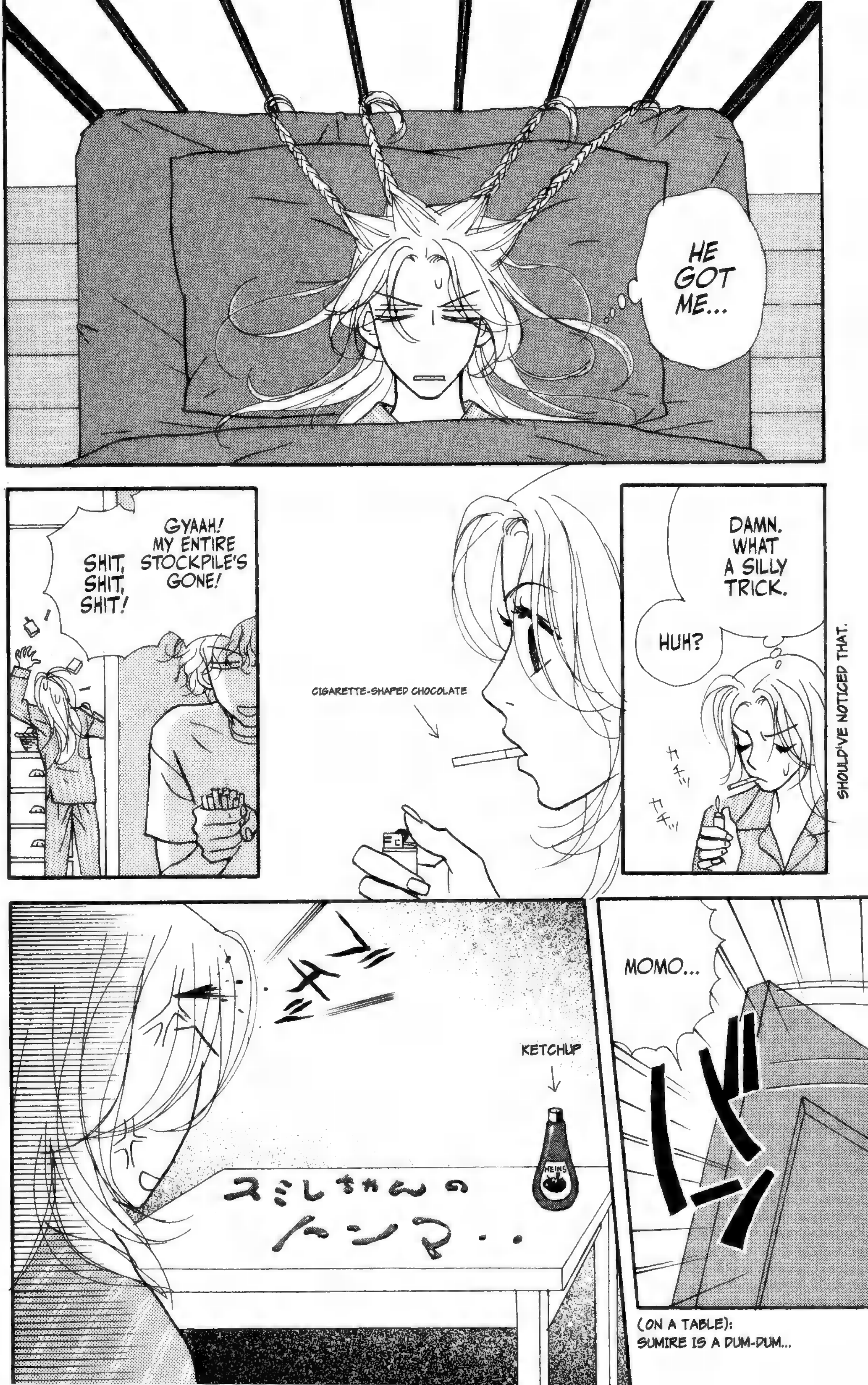
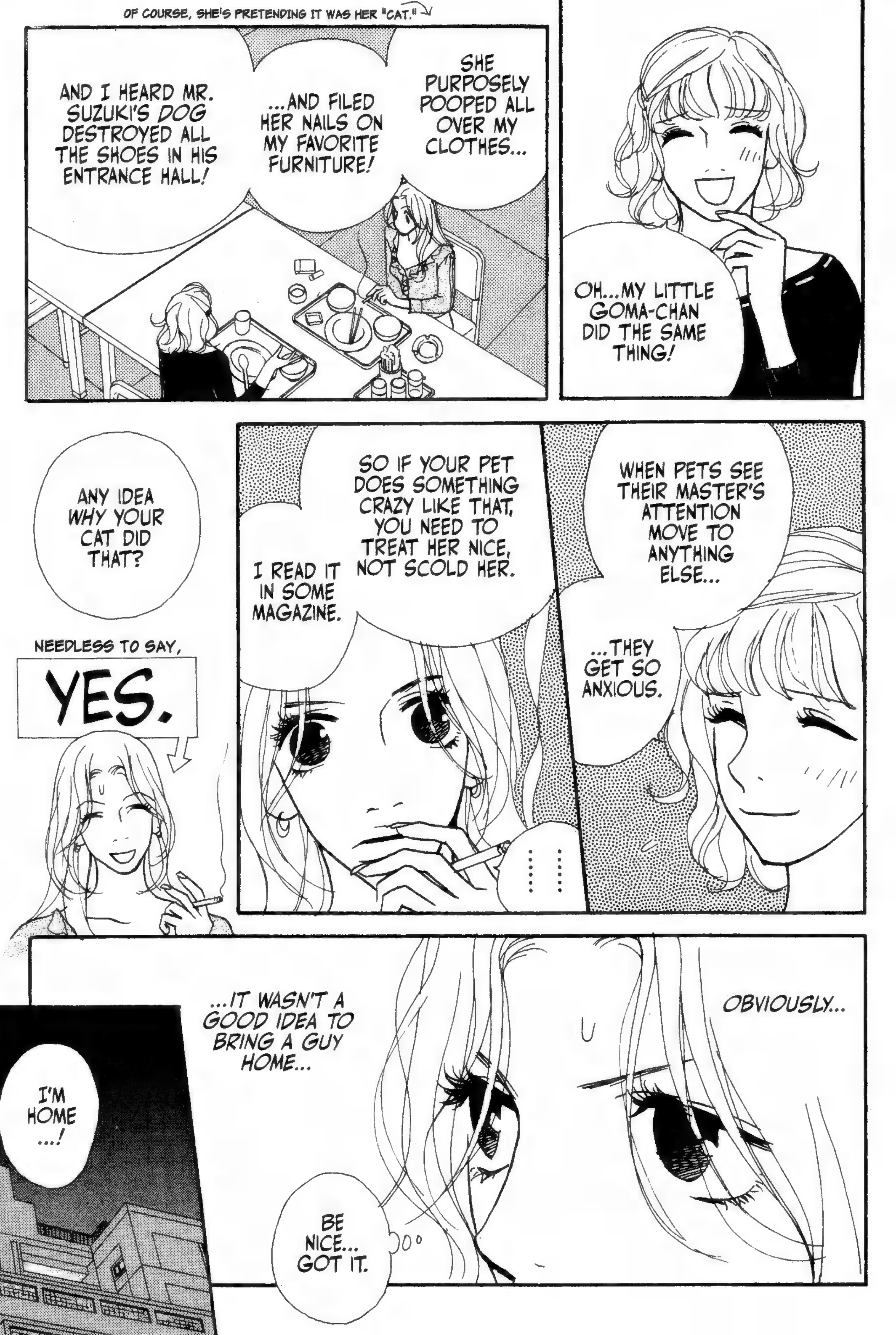
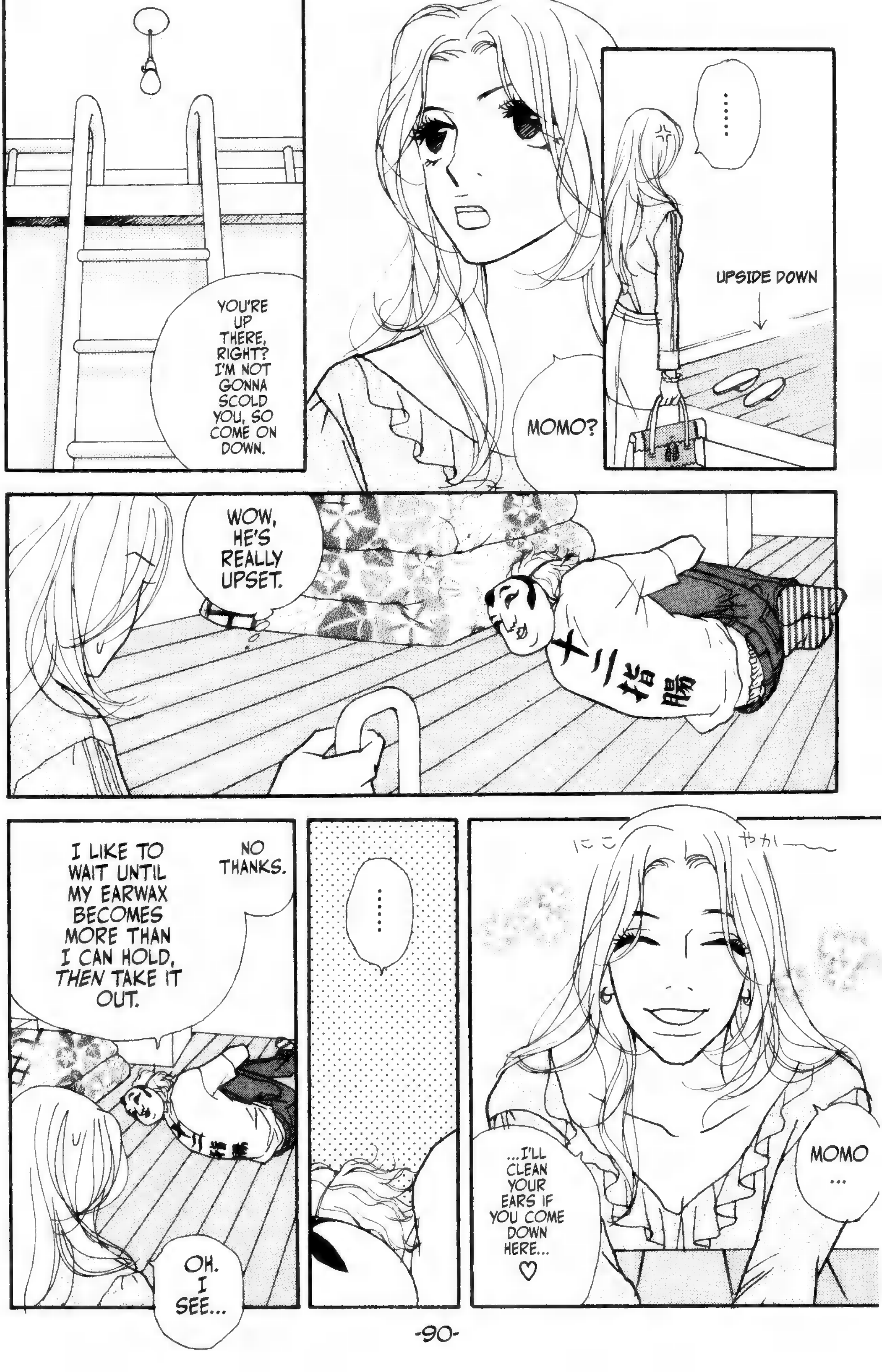

HE GOT ME...
DAMN. WHAT A SILLY TRICK.
HUH?
カチッ
カチッ
SHOULD'VE NOTICED THAT.
CIGARETTE-SHAPED CHOCOLATE
GYAAH! MY ENTIRE STOCKPILE'S GONE!
SHIT, SHIT, SHIT!
MOMO...
KETCHUP
(ON A TABLE):
SUMIRE IS A DUM-DUM...



OF COURSE, SHE'S PRETENDING IT WAS HER "CAT."
SHE PURPOSELY POOPED ALL OVER MY CLOTHES...
...AND FILED HER NAILS ON MY FAVORITE FURNITURE!
AND I HEARD MR. SUZUKI'S DOG DESTROYED ALL THE SHOES IN HIS ENTRANCE HALL!
OH...MY LITTLE GOMA-CHAN DID THE SAME THING!
ANY IDEA WHY YOUR CAT DID THAT?
WHEN PETS SEE THEIR MASTER'S ATTENTION MOVE TO ANYTHING ELSE...
...THEY GET SO ANXIOUS.
SO IF YOUR PET DOES SOMETHING CRAZY LIKE THAT, YOU NEED TO TREAT HER NICE, NOT SCOLD HER.
I READ IT IN SOME MAGAZINE.
......
NEEDLESS TO SAY,
YES.
OBVIOUSLY...
...IT WASN'T A GOOD IDEA TO BRING A GUY HOME...
BE NICE... GOT IT.
I'M HOME ...!



......
UPSIDE DOWN
MOMO?
YOU'RE UP THERE, RIGHT? I'M NOT GONNA SCOLD YOU, SO COME ON DOWN.
WOW, HE'S REALLY UPSET.
十二指腸
にこ
やか〜〜
MOMO...
...I'LL CLEAN YOUR EARS IF YOU COME DOWN HERE... ♡
......
NO THANKS.
I LIKE TO WAIT UNTIL MY EARWAX BECOMES MORE THAN I CAN HOLD, THEN TAKE IT OUT.
OH. I SEE...

MOMO?
SWAB MY EARS, SWAB MY EARS, SWAB MY EARS.
HE'S ACTUALLY LOVING THIS.
HEY... DON'T BE MAD AT ME.
C'MON... BE GOOD.
WELL...IF YOU REALLY WANNA DO IT, SUMIRE...
...I GUESS YOU CAN...
...SWAB MY EARS.

THAT'S WHY I CAN'T STOP BEING YOUR MASTER.

I KNOW HE'S JUST A PET. BUT I HAVE TO GIVE HIM SOME ATTENTION.
I SHOULD PLAY WITH HIM MORE...AT LEAST FOR A WHILE...
MISS IWAYA?
ドキッ
DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
THE OTHER NIGHT...I'M SORRY. I PUSHED YOU TOO FAST.
AH...NO... I'M FINE! IT'S JUST...
MY DOG WAS...
BUT WHAT I SAID THAT NIGHT...
...I MEANT IT.

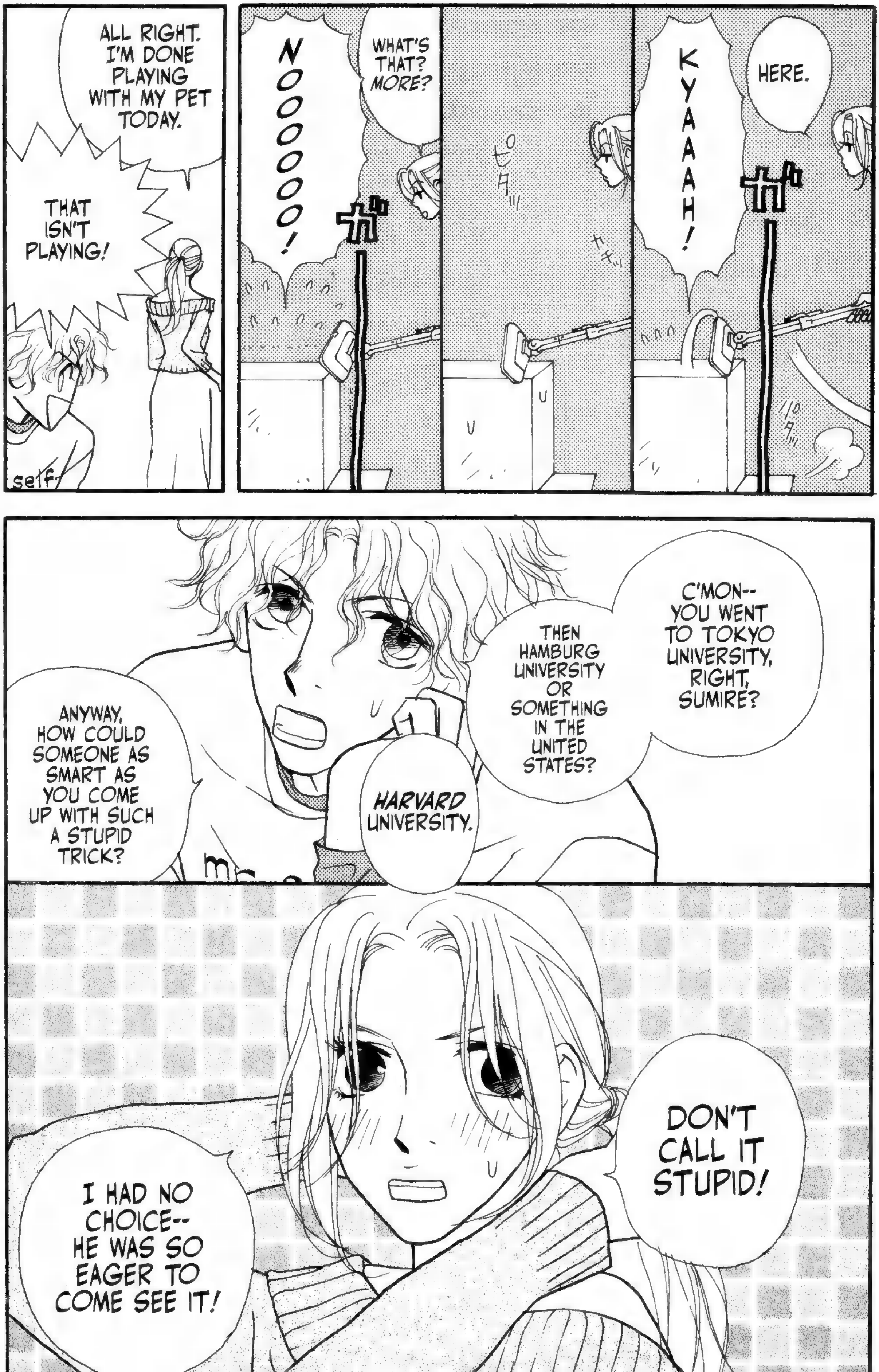
FOR THE LONGEST TIME... I COULDN'T FORGET YOU.
WELL, I THOUGHT I HAD FINALLY DONE IT.
BUT WHEN I SAW YOU AGAIN...
...I WANTED YOU AGAIN. I COULDN'T HELP IT.
WILL YOU BE MY GIRLFRIEND?
PLEASE?

ACK...WHY AM I JUST NODDING?
WHY?
MISS IWAYA ...?
HA, HA. WE'RE ACTING LIKE A COUPLE OF TEENAGERS, AREN'T WE?
WHY DO I TURN PASSIVE WHEN I'M WITH HIM?!
OH--RIGHT! I BROUGHT YOU SOMETHING NEAT.
I READ ABOUT IT IN A MAGAZINE. IT'S ACTUALLY VERY USEFUL.
ペットショップ
FOR MOMO.
IT'S NON-CHEMICAL. SUPPOSED TO BE REALLY GENTLE.
FLEA COLLAR.
I REALLY LIKE DOGS, ACTUALLY.
I'D LOVE TO COME OVER AND SEE IT NEXT TIME.

CAREER, PET AND MAN.
HOW TO BALANCE ALL THREE?
MY MISTRESS DOES SEEM...
...A BIT GREEDY SOMETIMES.
WELL... O-OF COURSE!
ALTHOUGH... SHE IS A BIT SHY...
SO...WHAT NOW, SUMIRE?

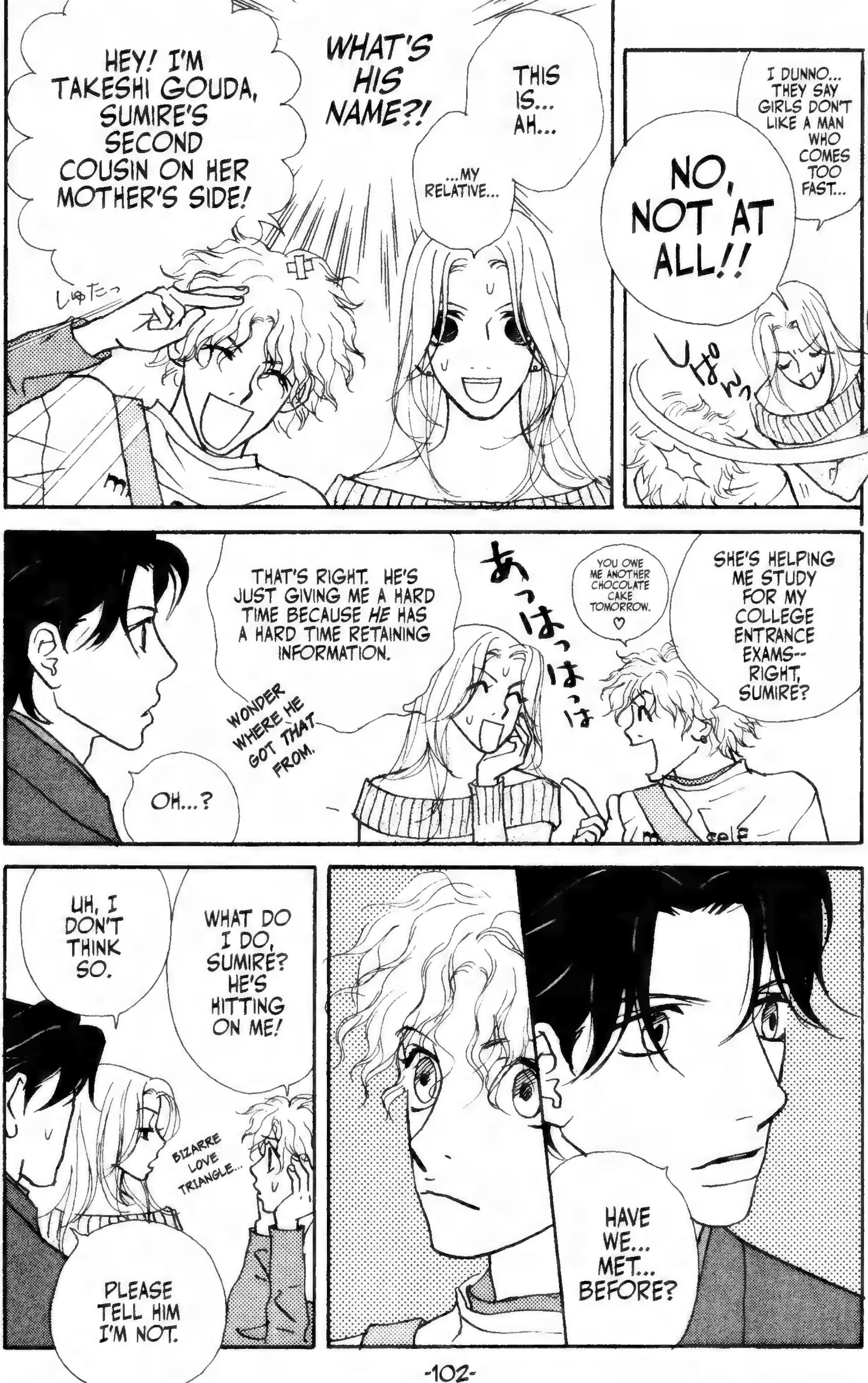
RULE 3:
WHEN HOME ALONE FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME

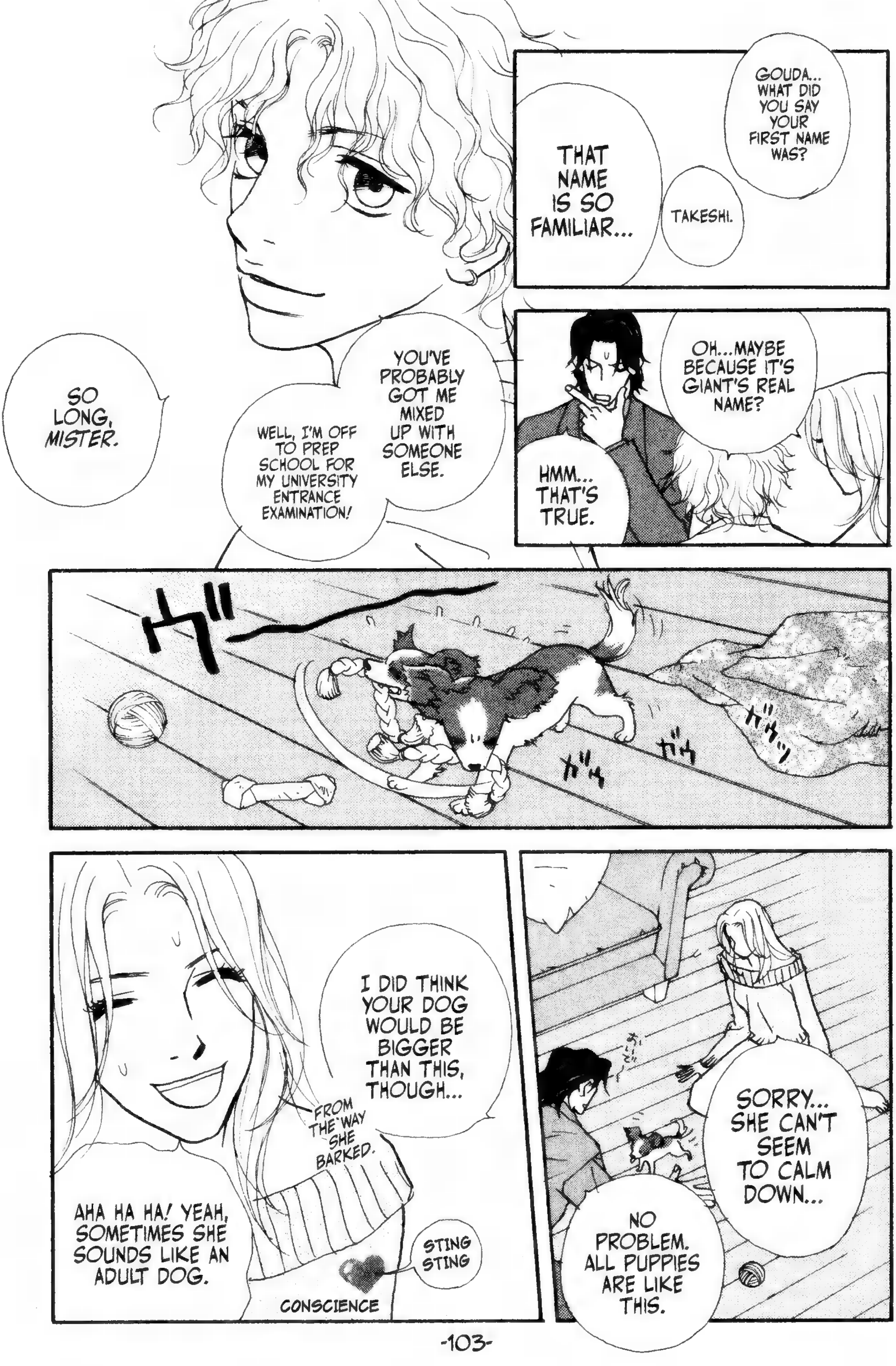
IF YOU WERE STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLAND...
WHAT THREE ITEMS WOULD YOU TAKE?


HERE.
KYAAAH!
WHAT'S THAT? MORE?
NOOOOOOO!
ALL RIGHT. I'M DONE PLAYING WITH MY PET TODAY.
THAT ISN'T PLAYING!
self-
C'MON-- YOU WENT TO TOKYO UNIVERSITY, RIGHT, SUMIRE?
THEN HAMBURG UNIVERSITY OR SOMETHING IN THE UNITED STATES?
HARVARD UNIVERSITY.
ANYWAY, HOW COULD SOMEONE AS SMART AS YOU COME UP WITH SUCH A STUPID TRICK?
DON'T CALL IT STUPID!
I HAD NO CHOICE-- HE WAS SO EAGER TO COME SEE IT!

YURI'S DOG
SHE LOOKS SO EXCITED... IN A STRANGE PLACE, WITH STRANGE PEOPLE...
HMM...
ALL RIGHT, BACK UP. LET ME EXPLAIN. MY MISTRESS TOLD HER BOYFRIEND I WAS A DOG.
BUT HER BOYFRIEND LOVES DOGS. SO NOW HE'S DETERMINED TO COME OVER AND SEE ME. ER, IT.
WELL, I'VE BORROWED THIS TOWEL SHE USES ALL THE TIME.
YURI SAYS SHE'LL CALM DOWN ONCE WE PUT HER ON THIS.
SO NOW MY BRILLIANT MISTRESS IS TRYING TO TRICK HIM BY BRINGING IN A SUBSTITUTE.
SHE'S REALLY FUNNY SOMETIMES.
OH-- IT'S TIME!
SCRAM, MOMO!
HEY! THINK YOU COULD BE A LITTLE MORE HEARTLESS?
mr. self destruc

STOP COMPLAINING AND HURRY UP!
DIDN'T I BAKE YOU CHOCOLATE CAKE *THREE* DAYS IN A ROW?
EH, DON'T PANIC. EVERYTHING'LL BE FINE.
IT'S PROPER MANNERS FOR A VISITOR TO SHOW UP FIVE MINUTES LATE, ANYWAY.
HEY, YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT ME TO SHOW UP IN A DOG COSTUME?
HE MIGHT THINK YOU'RE INSANE, CONVENIENTLY ALLOWING YOU TO PRESERVE YOUR CHASTITY!!
HI, I'M MOMO! ER... JUST KIDDING.
DO YOU WANT ME TO PACK YOU INTO A CARDBOARD BOX AND LEAVE YOU ON THE STREET AGAIN?
SHUT UP AND GO, *NOW!*
OUCH!
ペットショップ
サンタ
AH...
DID I COME TOO SOON?
THIS IS MY MISTRESS'S LATEST SWEETHEART, SHIGEHITO HASUMI.
I'M NOT INTERRUPTING, AM I?


I DUNNO... THEY SAY GIRLS DON'T LIKE A MAN WHO COMES TOO FAST...
NO, NOT AT ALL!!
WHAT'S HIS NAME?!
THIS IS... AH...
...MY RELATIVE...
HEY! I'M TAKESHI GOUDA, SUMIRE'S SECOND COUSIN ON HER MOTHER'S SIDE!
SHE'S HELPING ME STUDY FOR MY COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS-- RIGHT, SUMIRE?
YOU OWE ME ANOTHER CHOCOLATE CAKE TOMORROW. ♡
あっはっはっは
THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S JUST GIVING ME A HARD TIME BECAUSE HE HAS A HARD TIME RETAINING INFORMATION.
WONDER WHERE HE GOT THAT FROM.
OH...?
HAVE WE... MET... BEFORE?
WHAT DO I DO, SUMIRE? HE'S HITTING ON ME!
UH, I DON'T THINK SO.
BIZARRE LOVE TRIANGLE...
PLEASE TELL HIM I'M NOT.


GOUDA... WHAT DID YOU SAY YOUR FIRST NAME WAS?
TAKESHI.
THAT NAME IS SO FAMILIAR...
OH...MAYBE BECAUSE IT'S GIANT'S REAL NAME?
HMM... THAT'S TRUE.
YOU'VE PROBABLY GOT ME MIXED UP WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
WELL, I'M OFF TO PREP SCHOOL FOR MY UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE EXAMINATION!
SO LONG, *MISTER.*
SORRY... SHE CAN'T SEEM TO CALM DOWN...
NO PROBLEM. ALL PUPPIES ARE LIKE THIS.
I DID THINK YOUR DOG WOULD BE BIGGER THAN THIS, THOUGH...
FROM THE WAY SHE BARKED.
AHA HA HA! YEAH, SOMETIMES SHE SOUNDS LIKE AN ADULT DOG.
STING STING
CONSCIENCE

YIP!
YIP!
YIP!
IS THAT RIGHT, MOMO?
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE SO EXCITED.
はっ はっ はっ
OH MY GOSH-- I'M SORRY!! I'M SO SORRY!!
IT'S OKAY.
GIVE ME YOUR DIRTY CLOTHES. I'LL WASH THEM RIGHT NOW.
HERE'S A CHANGE OF CLOTHES, SENPAI...
OH-- THANK YOU.
グラッ
MISS IWAYA?! ARE YOU OKAY?!
DON'T WORRY. I'M A LITTLE SHORT OF BREATH, THAT'S ALL.
WEIRD. I'M OKAY WITH MOMO BEING NAKED...
MOMO MUST BE TIRED FROM PLAYING SO HARD. SHE'S SLEEPING LIKE A LOG NOW.
YEAH... LOOK, I'M REALLY SORRY...

SINCE YOU'RE WORKING THE NIGHT SHIFT, IS COFFEE OKAY?
SURE-- THANK YOU.
......
HM?
UH...
NOTHING.
I WONDER IF I SHOULD SIT NEXT TO HIM.
I DON'T THINK WE'RE THAT CLOSE YET.
BUT--BUT-- IT'LL FEEL WEIRD IF I SIT IN THE CHAIR.
AWKWARD EMPTY SPACE
OH...GOT IT! IT'LL BE MORE NATURAL IF WE WATCH SOMETHING TOGETHER.
AH... DO YOU WANNA WATCH A MOVIE?
SURE.
IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU RECOMMEND.
プロレス
アレクサンダー大塚 vs 船木

ONLY WRESTLING AND ANIME...
MISS IWAYA?
CAREER WOMAN 27 YEARS OLD
SORRY...
I JUST WANTED TO TOUCH YOU.
CAN I JUST HOLD YOU FOR A WHILE...?
SUDDENLY WEAKENING
I THOUGHT MY HEART WAS GONNA STOP!

SORRY, SUMIRE!! FORGOT SOMETHING --!!
ACTUALLY, CAN I BORROW 500 YEN FOR THE TRAIN?!!
CLARA...IS STANDING UP... BY HERSELF...!
OH...!
IT'S NOT A DREAM. I CAN WALK!
CLARA--!

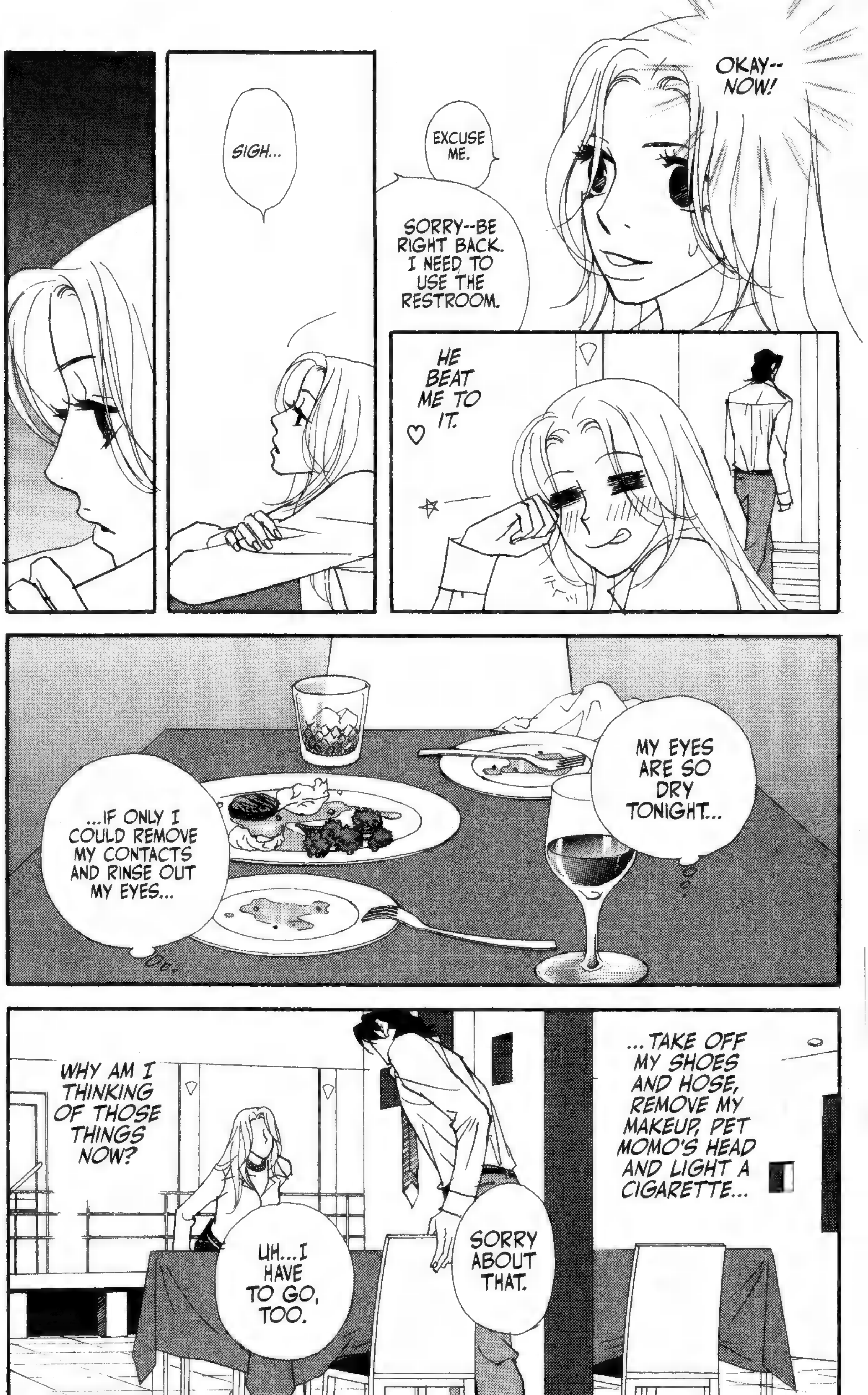
OOPS. LOOK AT THE TIME.
I'D BETTER GET GOING TO WORK.
I'LL IRON YOUR CLOTHES RIGHT NOW!
OH!
NAH! I DECIDED NOT TO GO TODAY!
MO--I MEAN, TAKESHI--DON'T YOU HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL?
THIS ISN'T FUNNY, KIDDO...I'M GONNA KILL YOU...
AND THE CHEESE...IT ALWAYS LOOKS SO DELICIOUS!!
OHHH... HEIDI IS SO TOUCHING... NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SEE IT...!
はっ
GETTING IT FROM BOTH ENDS.
WHY ARE THERE THREE OF US...? AND WHY ARE WE WATCHING A VIDEO?
WELL... SEE YOU LATER.
NO... I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR CLOTHES!
SORRY THIS WAS KIND OF A SHORT VISIT...
UGH!!!
WOOHOOOO!!
がばっ
パタン

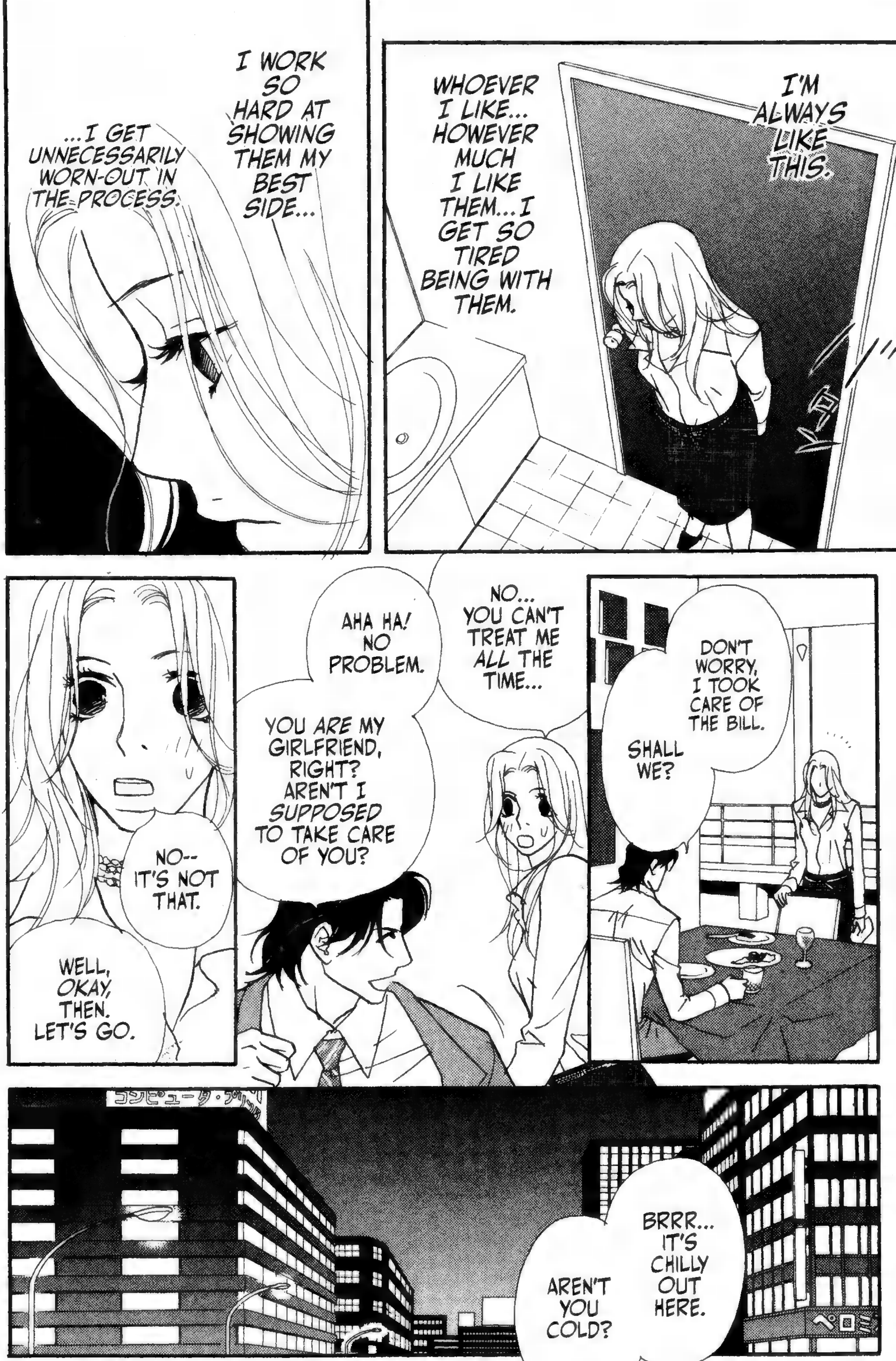
I'VE GOT A SUMIRE MONOPOLY!
SHUT UP, STUPID!!
DON'T YELL IN MY EAR!
AND DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO HUG ME SO SUDDENLY?!
AND MOST OF ALL...
......
ニコッ
UGH...HE GOT ME AGAIN.
......
...WANNA WATCH TV...?
WHAT-EVER!
OH, YEAH-- I'M IN A SHOW NEXT MONTH.
SO I MIGHT BE COMING HOME LATE SOMETIMES.
RYU IS STUPID...!!!
CAN YOU COME? IT'S ON THE SEVENTH AND EIGHTH.
AH...SURE. I CAN PROBABLY GO EITHER DAY.
ALL RIGHT!

I'LL DO MY VERY BEST.
KODAN NEWSPAPER COMPANY.
MISS IWAYA?
OOH, LOOK. MR. HASUMI FROM THE FOREIGN NEWS DEPARTMENT IS HERE AGAIN.
NO WAY. ARE THEY REALLY DATING?
I CAN'T BELIEVE MISS IWAYA IS WITH HER BOYFRIEND!
I'M SCARED OF HER MYSELF.
WELL, HE IS THE ONLY GUY AROUND HERE THAT COULD MEASURE UP TO SUMIRE THE ICE PRINCESS.
WONDER WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT...

TOMIN KOUDAN
STAR PERFORMANCE AT LAUSANNE
15-YEAR-OLD FROM SETAGAYA MAY JUST BE THE NEXT KUMAYAMA
KOUDAN FOR CITIZENS OF TOKYO
TAKESHI GOUDA WHO HAS RECEIVED ESPOIR PRIZE AT PRIX DE LAUSANNE.
LOOK.
ISN'T THIS HIM?
WHEN I WAS WORKING ON THE TOMIN SECTION, WE RAN THIS ARTICLE.
SEE THE SUBHEAD-- "THE NEXT KUMAYAMA"? HIS MOTHER WAS *FURIOUS.*
"HOW DARE YOU PLACE A STEREOTYPE ON MY TAKESHI'S EXCEPTIONAL TALENT?!"
UNFORTUNATELY, I WAS THE ONE WHO ANSWERED THE PHONE WHEN SHE CALLED.
I SEE...
THAT'S WHY I REMEMBERED THE NAME.
縮刷 '95～96
THAT'S AMAZING. I HAD NO IDEA YOUR SECOND COUSIN WAS SUCH A TALENTED KID.
AHA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA.
OH, I'M EMBARRASSED.
YEAH, THAT "TALENTED KID"...
...THE ONE I MAKE DO THIS AND THAT.
THIS
SHAKE!
THAT
GO FETCH!

BUT HE GAVE UP HIS BALLET CAREER AFTER ALL, EH?
THERE MUST BE SO MANY THINGS GOING ON IN THAT WORLD.
MY PARENTS DISAPPROVED OF MY DANCING...
......
BY THE WAY, ARE YOU FREE TONIGHT?
UM, SURE. I'VE ALREADY FINISHED MY OUTLINE...
GREAT. SAME RESTAURANT, EIGHT P.M.?
...ONLY MY BUDDY TAKEDA AND I HAD HEARD IT AT THAT TIME...
...BUT WE WERE IN COMPLETE PANIC!
REALLY. I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
JEEZ...
...THIS IS KIND OF BORING, NODDING ALL THE TIME...
...BUT I DON'T WANT HIM TO NOTICE I'M BORED.
I WANT TO FIX MY LIPSTICK...
...AND IT'S ABOUT TIME TO POWDER MY NOSE.
AFTER THIS STORY, I'LL TELL HIM I NEED TO GO TO THE RESTROOM.
...AND THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS BACK THEN.

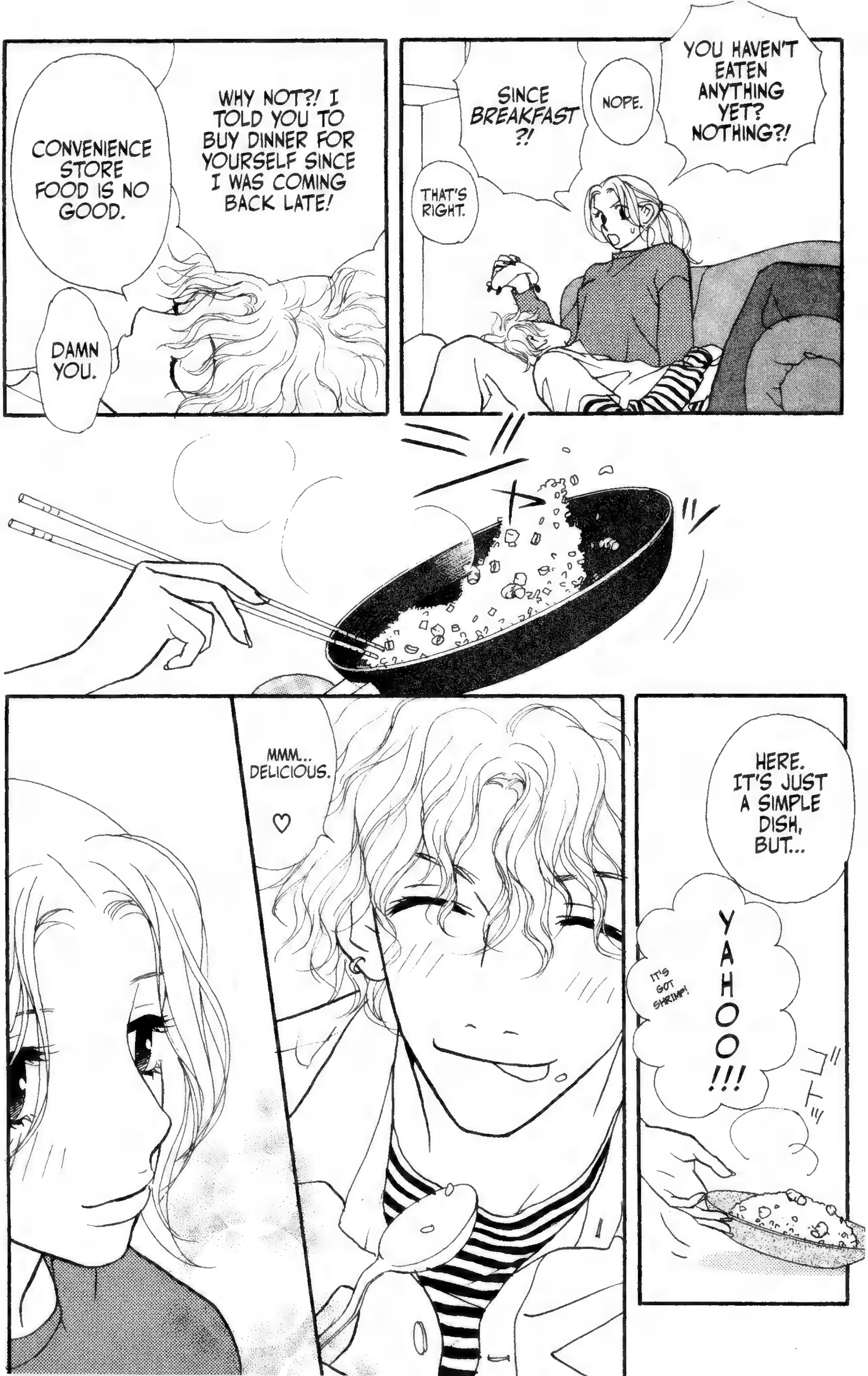

OKAY--NOW!
EXCUSE ME.
SORRY--BE RIGHT BACK. I NEED TO USE THE RESTROOM.
HE BEAT ME TO IT.
SIGH...
MY EYES ARE SO DRY TONIGHT...
...IF ONLY I COULD REMOVE MY CONTACTS AND RINSE OUT MY EYES...
...TAKE OFF MY SHOES AND HOSE, REMOVE MY MAKEUP, PET MOMO'S HEAD AND LIGHT A CIGARETTE...
WHY AM I THINKING OF THOSE THINGS NOW?
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
UH...I HAVE TO GO, TOO.


I'M ALWAYS LIKE THIS.
WHOEVER I LIKE... HOWEVER MUCH I LIKE THEM... I GET SO TIRED BEING WITH THEM.
I WORK SO HARD AT SHOWING THEM MY BEST SIDE...
...I GET UNNECESSARILY WORN-OUT IN THE PROCESS.
DON'T WORRY, I TOOK CARE OF THE BILL.
SHALL WE?
NO... YOU CAN'T TREAT ME *ALL* THE TIME...
AHA HA! NO PROBLEM.
YOU *ARE* MY GIRLFRIEND, RIGHT? AREN'T I *SUPPOSED* TO TAKE CARE OF YOU?
NO-- IT'S NOT THAT.
WELL, OKAY, THEN. LET'S GO.
BRRR... IT'S CHILLY OUT HERE.
AREN'T YOU COLD?

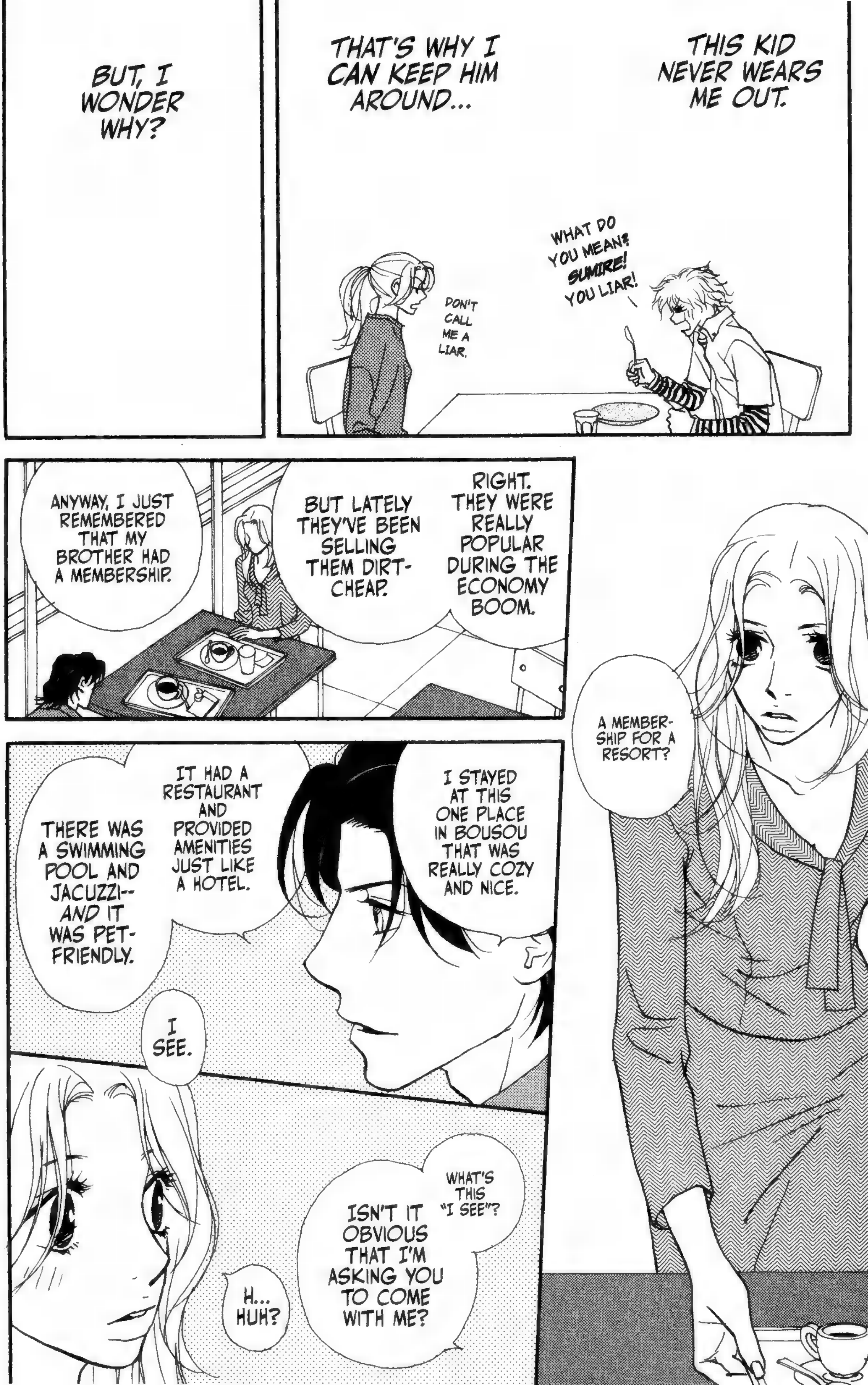
IF I SAY YES, HE'LL GENTLY HOLD ON TO MY SHOULDER...
......
THE MORE SHE THINKS ABOUT IT, THE LESS SHE CAN SAY IT.
NO...I'M OKAY...
DON'T BE SHY.
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE STRONG ALL THE TIME.

WHY IS HE BEING SO NICE TO ME?
AM I REALLY WORTH ALL THIS?
THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE I WANNA RUN.
I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT WHAT HE WANTS OR DO WHAT HE EXPECTS.
I JUST WANNA FEEL HIS HAND AND APPRECIATE HIS WARMTH.
I'M HOME...
WELCOME BACK!

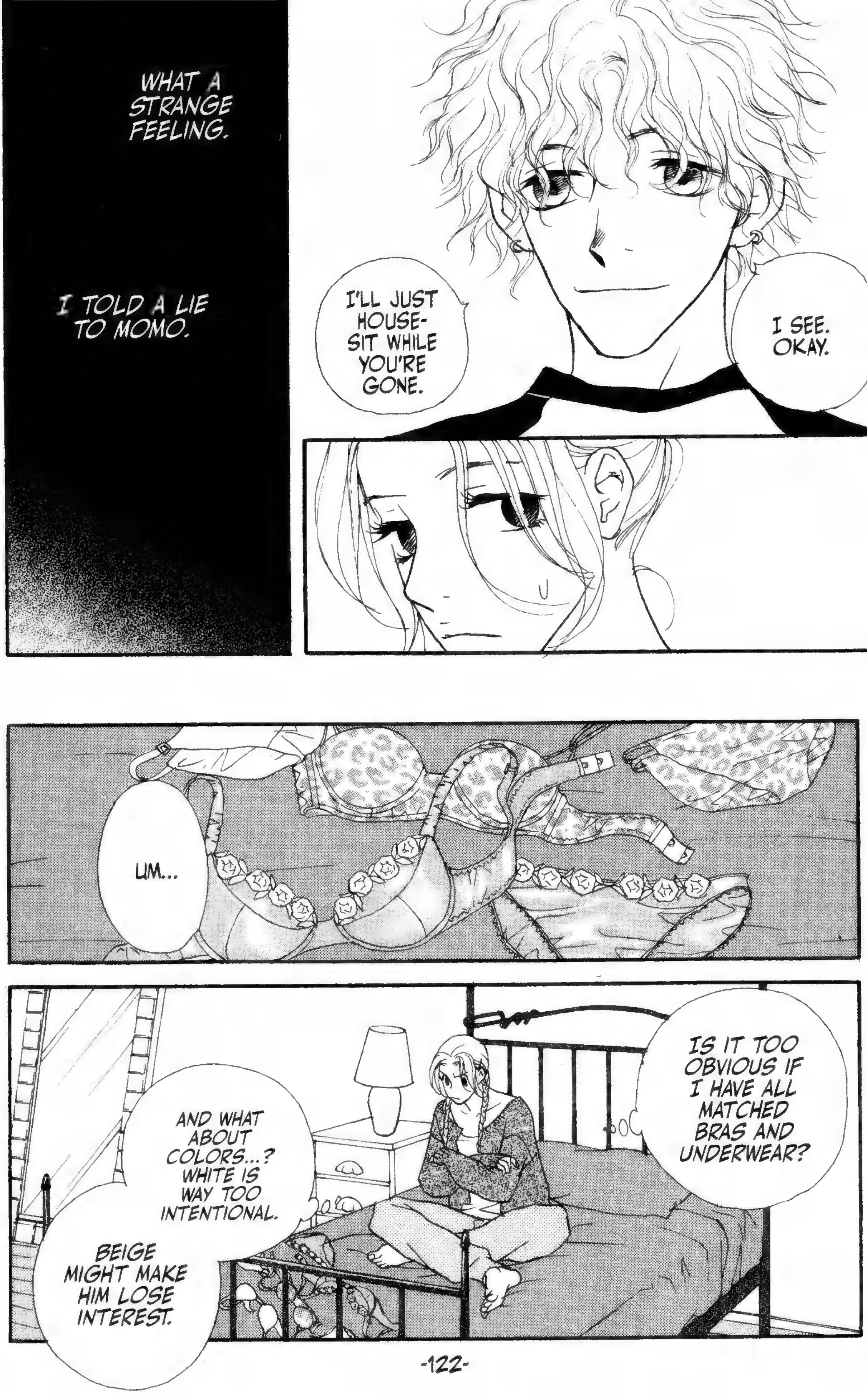
ARE YOU TIRED ...?
LITTLE BIT...
TA-DA!! THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, SO I FROZE UP YOUR FAVORITE EYE-PILLOW, HITSUJI-SAN!! ("MR. SHEEP")
WOW.
IN THE FRIDGE.
GOOD THINKING-- GOOD BOY!
DO I GET POINTS FOR THAT?
YES, FOR SURE! ♡
ナデリンコ ナデリンコ
SIGH...
THIS IS HEAVEN.
ぐでっ
UH, SUMIRE... YOU'RE DROOLING.
BY THE WAY, DID YOU EAT DINNER TONIGHT?
NO. I DIDN'T.


YOU HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING YET? NOTHING?!
NOPE.
SINCE BREAKFAST?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
WHY NOT?! I TOLD YOU TO BUY DINNER FOR YOURSELF SINCE I WAS COMING BACK LATE!
CONVENIENCE STORE FOOD IS NO GOOD.
DAMN YOU.
HERE. IT'S JUST A SIMPLE DISH, BUT...
YAHOO!!!
IT'S GOT SHRIMP!
MMM... DELICIOUS. ♡

WHAT?
WHY DO YOU LOOK SO HAPPY, SUMIRE?
WELL, YOU LOOK SO HAPPY EATING YOUR DINNER. IT MUST BE CONTAGIOUS.
REALLY ?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU BE WITH *ME* ALL THE TIME?
I'M HAPPY 24/7, YOU KNOW.
I DON'T THINK ANYONE WOULD WANT TO BE AROUND SOMEONE LIKE YOU ALL THE TIME.
THEY MIGHT START ACTING LIKE YOU.

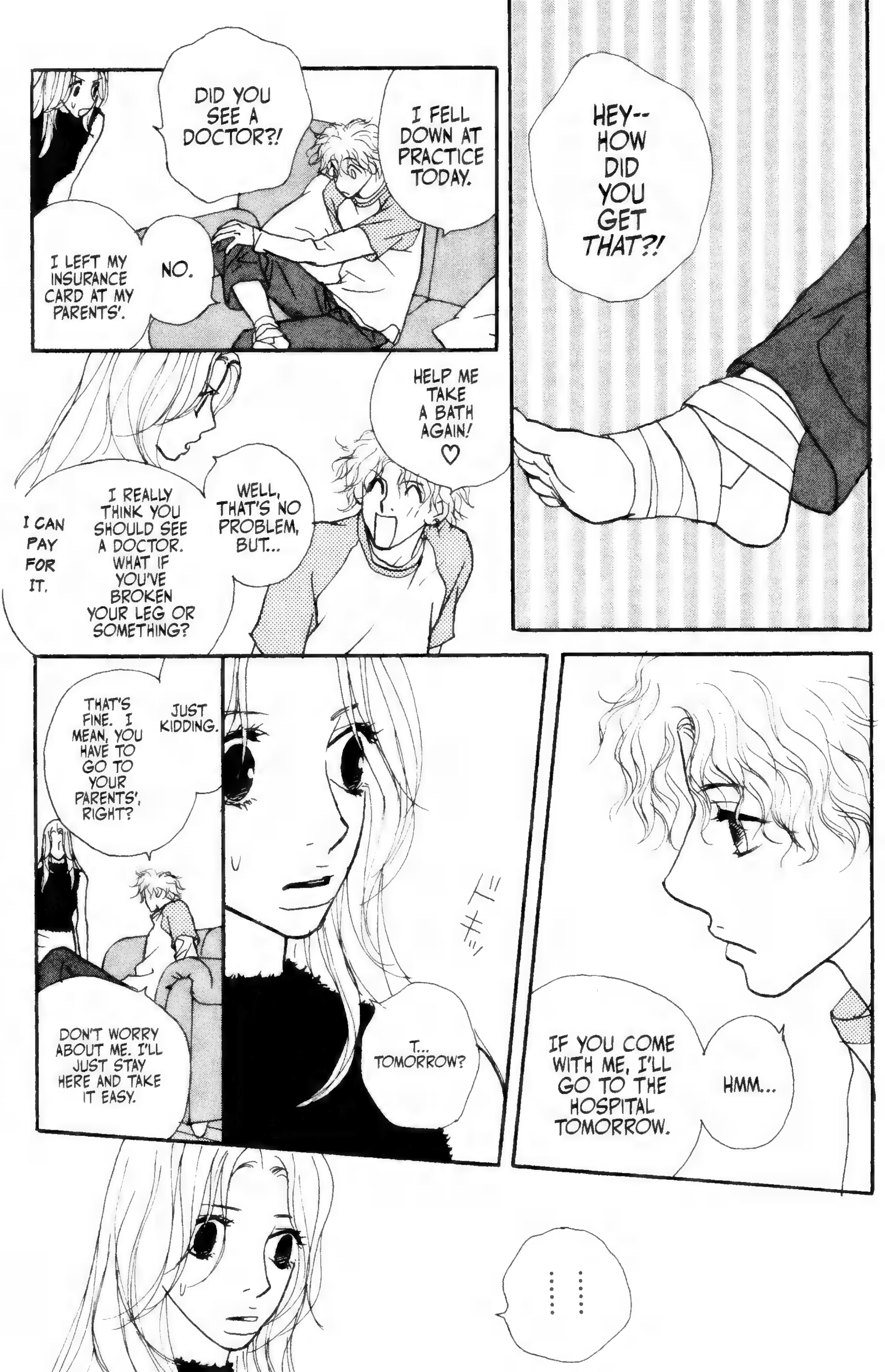

THIS KID NEVER WEARS ME OUT.
THAT'S WHY I CAN KEEP HIM AROUND...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? SUMIRE! YOU LIAR!
DON'T CALL ME A LIAR.
BUT, I WONDER WHY?
A MEMBERSHIP FOR A RESORT?
RIGHT. THEY WERE REALLY POPULAR DURING THE ECONOMY BOOM.
BUT LATELY THEY'VE BEEN SELLING THEM DIRT-CHEAP.
ANYWAY, I JUST REMEMBERED THAT MY BROTHER HAD A MEMBERSHIP.
I STAYED AT THIS ONE PLACE IN BOUSOU THAT WAS REALLY COZY AND NICE.
IT HAD A RESTAURANT AND PROVIDED AMENITIES JUST LIKE A HOTEL.
THERE WAS A SWIMMING POOL AND JACUZZI-- AND IT WAS PET-FRIENDLY.
I SEE.
WHAT'S THIS "I SEE"?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS THAT I'M ASKING YOU TO COME WITH ME?
H... HUH?

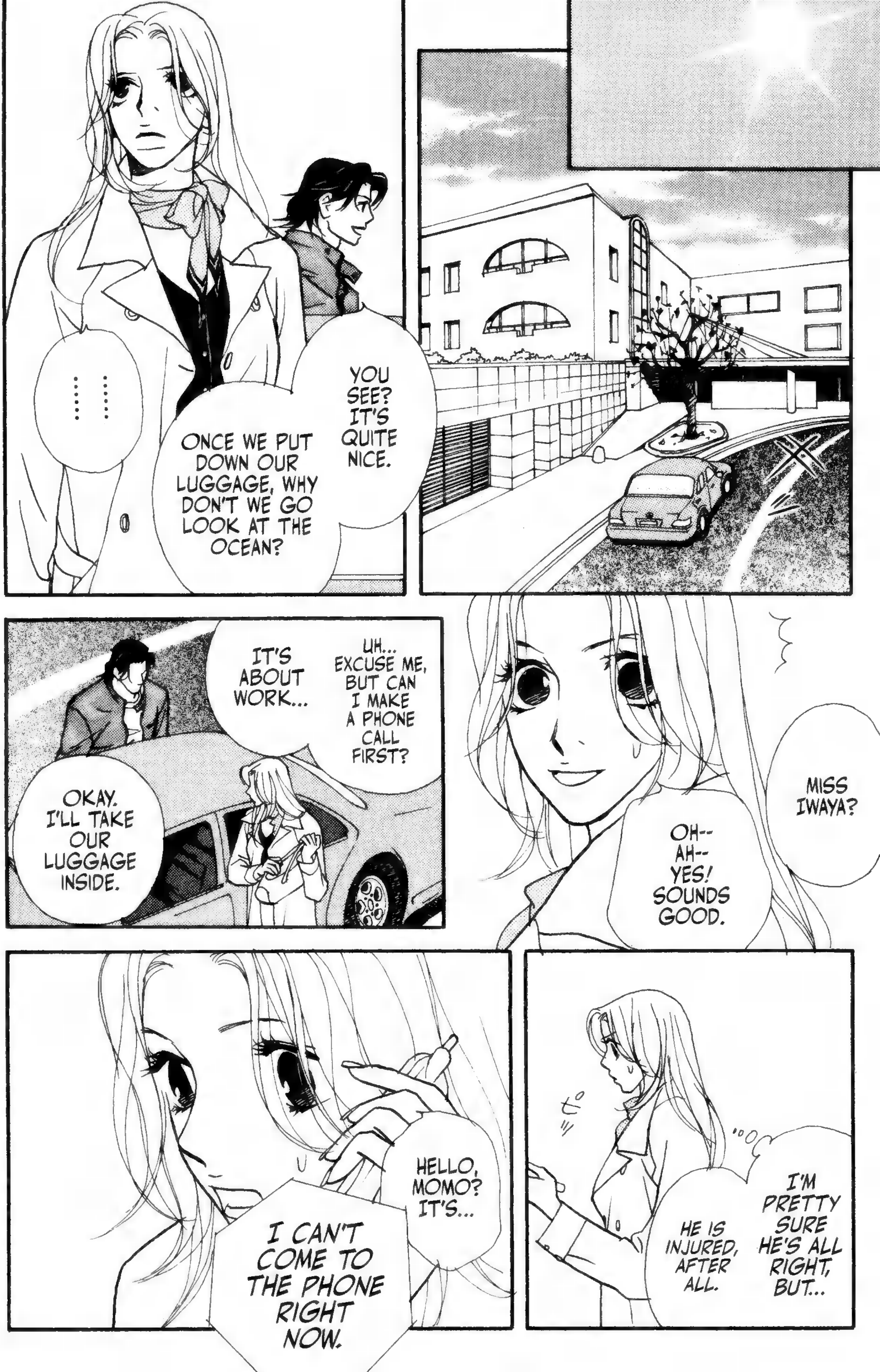
I'LL TAKE A VACATION ANY DAY YOU CAN TAKE OFF WORK.
LET'S GO TOGETHER.
MOMO?
YES...?
I...I'M GOING ON AN OVERNIGHT TRIP NEXT SATURDAY.
NEXT WEEKEND?
THE SEVENTH AND EIGHTH?
YES... WHAT...?
...NOTHING.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AN OVERNIGHT TRIP WITH MY BOYFRIEND. ♡
I CAN'T SAY THAT.
UH...I'M GOING HOME TO ATTEND A MEMORIAL SERVICE.


WHAT A STRANGE FEELING.
I TOLD A LIE TO MOMO.
I'LL JUST HOUSE-SIT WHILE YOU'RE GONE.
I SEE. OKAY.
UM...
IS IT TOO OBVIOUS IF I HAVE ALL MATCHED BRAS AND UNDERWEAR?
AND WHAT ABOUT COLORS...? WHITE IS WAY TOO INTENTIONAL.
BEIGE MIGHT MAKE HIM LOSE INTEREST.

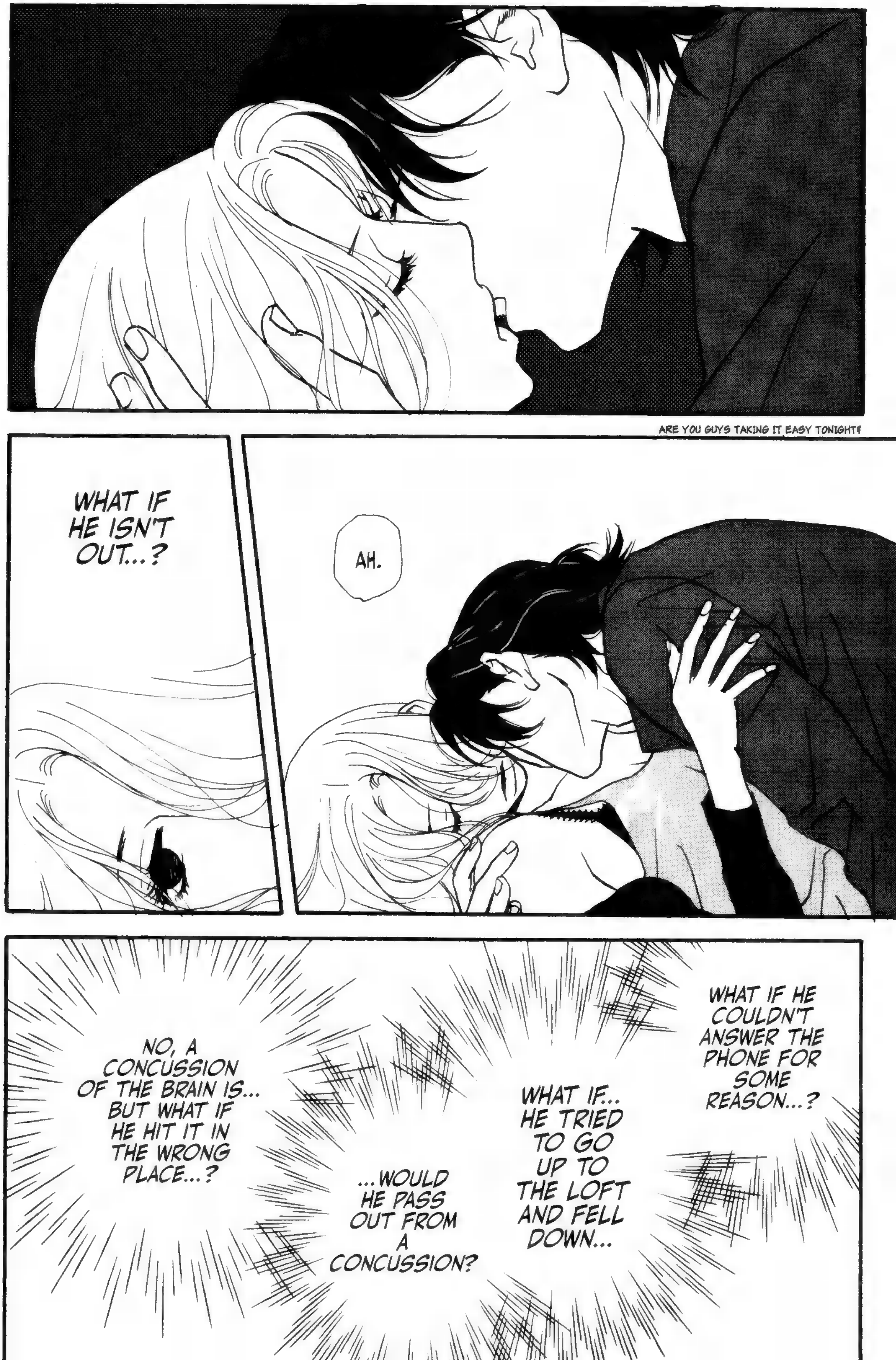
I CAN'T SHOW HIM MY NON-MADE-UP FACE YET. BETTER BRING SOME WATER-BASED FOUNDATION.
OH, AND I CAN'T FORGET...
SUMIRE'S DAILY-USE ITEMS.
EYE PILLOW, HITSUJI.
TOOTHBRUSH AND TOOTHPASTE.
BUNNY
STRAWBERRY FLAVOR
FAR-INFRARED-WAVES SOCKS
BEAR
UGH, NOT THESE SOCKS.
I WON'T DIE FROM ONE DAY WITHOUT THEM.
YOU CAN BRING SNACKS FOR LESS THAN 3000 YEN.
W-W-WHAT?!
EVER HEARD OF KNOCKING?!
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING ON A SCHOOL TRIP.
HAS IT REALLY BEEN THAT LONG SINCE YOU WENT HOME?
UH... YEAH.
HEY, SUMIRE.
THUMP THUMP.
IF YOU WERE STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLAND... WHAT THREE ITEMS WOULD YOU TAKE?

NOW...
WHAT COULD I ABSOLUTELY NOT LIVE WITHOUT...
EVEN FOR ONE DAY...?


HEY-- HOW DID YOU GET THAT?!
I FELL DOWN AT PRACTICE TODAY.
DID YOU SEE A DOCTOR?!
NO.
I LEFT MY INSURANCE CARD AT MY PARENTS'.
HELP ME TAKE A BATH AGAIN! ♡
WELL, THAT'S NO PROBLEM, BUT...
I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD SEE A DOCTOR. WHAT IF YOU'VE BROKEN YOUR LEG OR SOMETHING?
I CAN PAY FOR IT.
IF YOU COME WITH ME, I'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL TOMORROW.
HMM...
T... TOMORROW?
JUST KIDDING.
THAT'S FINE. I MEAN, YOU HAVE TO GO TO YOUR PARENTS', RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. I'LL JUST STAY HERE AND TAKE IT EASY.
......

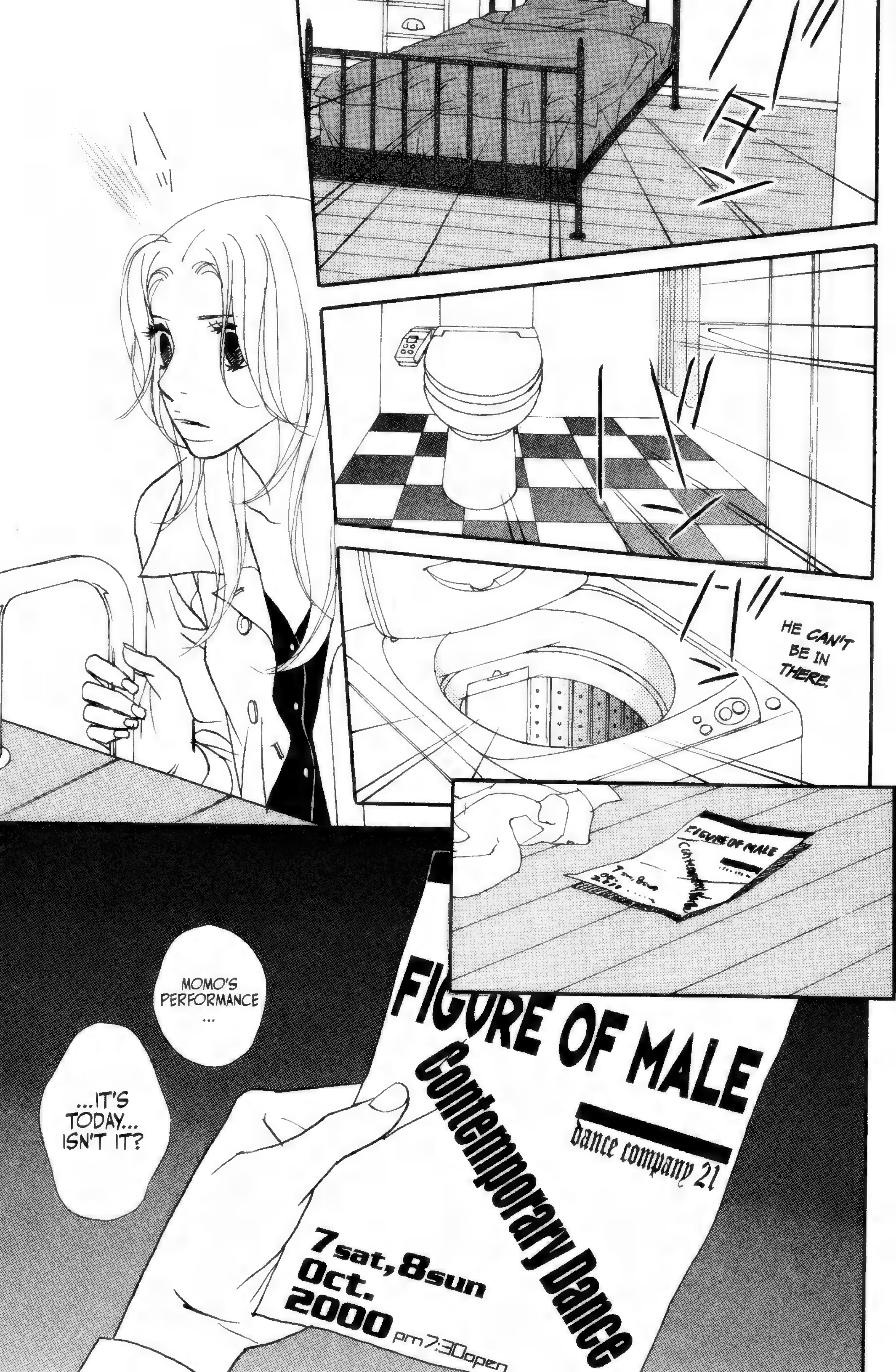

YOU SEE? IT'S QUITE NICE.
ONCE WE PUT DOWN OUR LUGGAGE, WHY DON'T WE GO LOOK AT THE OCEAN?
......
MISS IWAYA?
OH-- AH-- YES! SOUNDS GOOD.
UH... EXCUSE ME, BUT CAN I MAKE A PHONE CALL FIRST?
IT'S ABOUT WORK...
OKAY. I'LL TAKE OUR LUGGAGE INSIDE.
I'M PRETTY SURE HE'S ALL RIGHT, BUT...
HE IS INJURED, AFTER ALL.
HELLO, MOMO? IT'S...
I CAN'T COME TO THE PHONE RIGHT NOW.

(Note: A short form of the Japanese comedian group, the Drifters. She thought he was talking about Dorif instead of truffles, as they sound similar.)


ARE YOU GUYS TAKING IT EASY TONIGHT?
AH.
WHAT IF HE ISN'T OUT...?
WHAT IF HE COULDN'T ANSWER THE PHONE FOR SOME REASON...?
WHAT IF... HE TRIED TO GO UP TO THE LOFT AND FELL DOWN...
...WOULD HE PASS OUT FROM A CONCUSSION?
NO, A CONCUSSION OF THE BRAIN IS... BUT WHAT IF HE HIT IT IN THE WRONG PLACE...?

...DEAD...
NO!
EH?
OH.
I'M SORRY. YOU DON'T LIKE THIS...?
NO, NOT AT ALL!!
GOD, NO!
IT'S NOT THAT... IT'S JUST...
WHAT DO I DO? I CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON SEX IF I'M CONCERNED ABOUT MOMO.
...I JUST REMEMBERED ...
...SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT.
NO, I CAN'T.
I'M SO SORRY, BUT...

...I FORGOT TO LEAVE MOMO FOOD TODAY. I'M GOING HOME!!!
WHAT?!!
MOMO ?!
はぁ
はぁ
WHERE ARE YOU, MOMO...?
ARE YOU NOT HOME?


HE CAN'T BE IN THERE.
FIGURE OF MALE
MOMO'S PERFORMANCE ...
...IT'S TODAY... ISN'T IT?
FIGURE OF MALE
dance company 21
Contemporary Dance
7 sat, 8 sun
Oct.
2000 pm 7:30 open

(on spray can):
Air Salonpas.

HEY, THAT LOOKS PAINFUL.
ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?
TAKESHI? YOUR SECOND COUSIN IS HERE TO SEE YOU.
EH... SECOND COUSIN...?
MOMO.
ハァ ハァ
SUMIRE ...?
DID YOU DANCE TONIGHT?
YEP.
THE JUMPING AND LIFTING PARTS WERE OBVIOUSLY CUT DOWN, BUT...
IS YOUR LEG ALL RIGHT...?
IT HURTS A LITTLE, BUT...
...IT WAS MY FAULT.
AS A PROFESSIONAL DANCER, I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR MY PERFORMANCES.

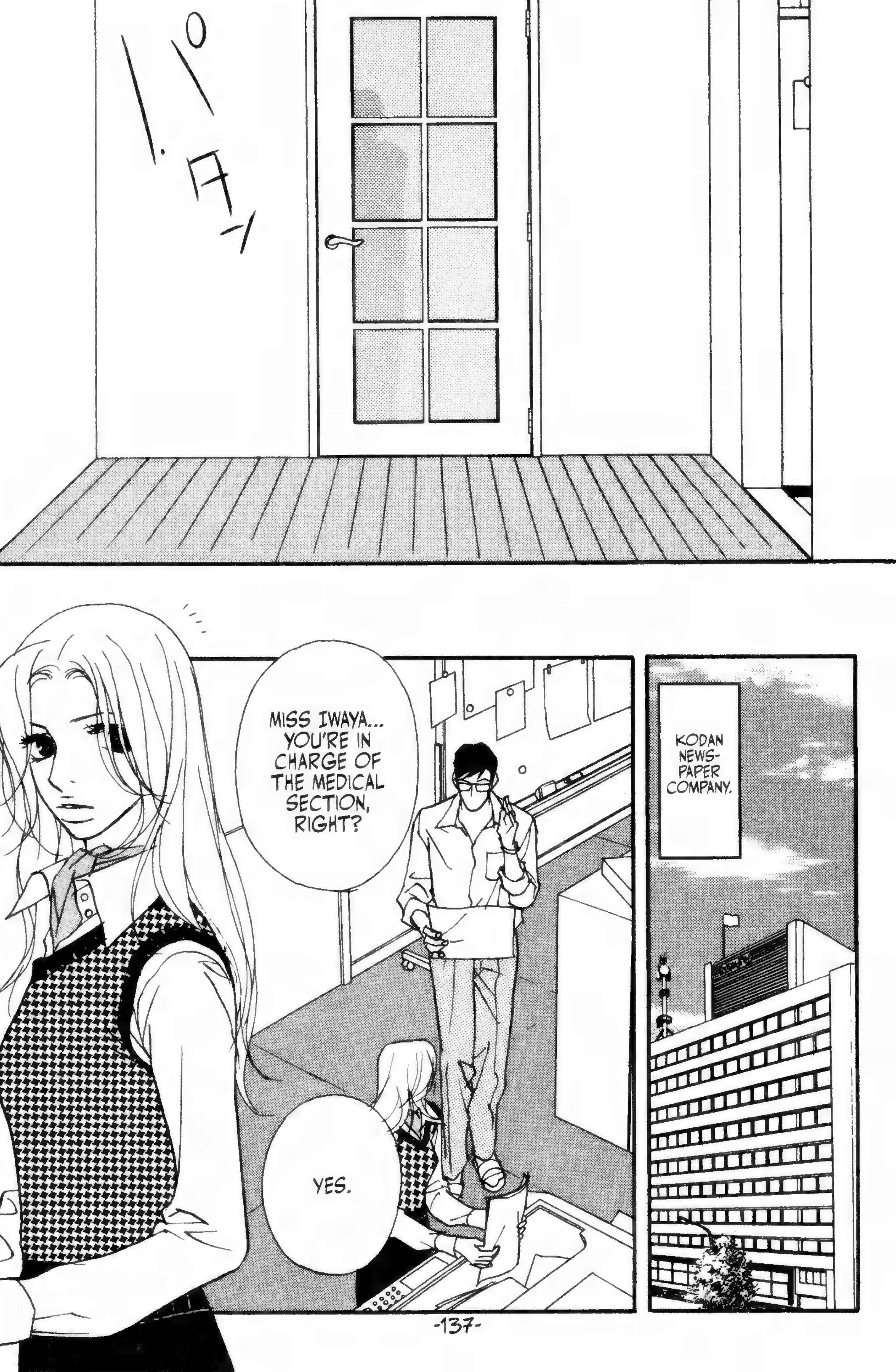
ぎゅっ
SU-SUMIRE...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
EVERYONE CAN SEE US.
I'M SORRY...
...I'M SO SORRY...
IF I GO TO A DESERT ISLAND...
I'LL ABSOLUTELY TAKE YOU WITH ME.

YES... I THINK YOU WILL.
'CAUSE I KNOW YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ME FOR EVEN ONE DAY, SUMIRE.
EVEN WITH ONLY OCEAN, JUNGLE AND SKY... AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER, WE'LL BE HAPPY.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS... ALWAYS TAKE ME WITH YOU.

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS...
...ARE YOU SERIOUS?
YOU'RE REALLY GOING BACK?!
NOW ?!
OF COURSE. I MADE SURE YOU WERE OKAY, DIDN'T I?
WELL, SEE YA. MY BOY-FRIEND IS WAITING FOR ME.
WAAAHHH...!
OCEAN, JUNGLE AND SKY...
...COME WITH ME TO PARADISE, MY PET.
WHOOPS... I'M TOTALLY LOST!!!
HELLO? OH MY GOD-- NO SERVICE?!
WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS

RULE 4:
WHAT TO DO IF YOUR PET GETS LOST

THE FIRST DAY
ポン
Dear Sumire
Dear Sumire


パタン
KODAN NEWS-PAPER COMPANY.
MISS IWAYA... YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THE MEDICAL SECTION, RIGHT?
YES.

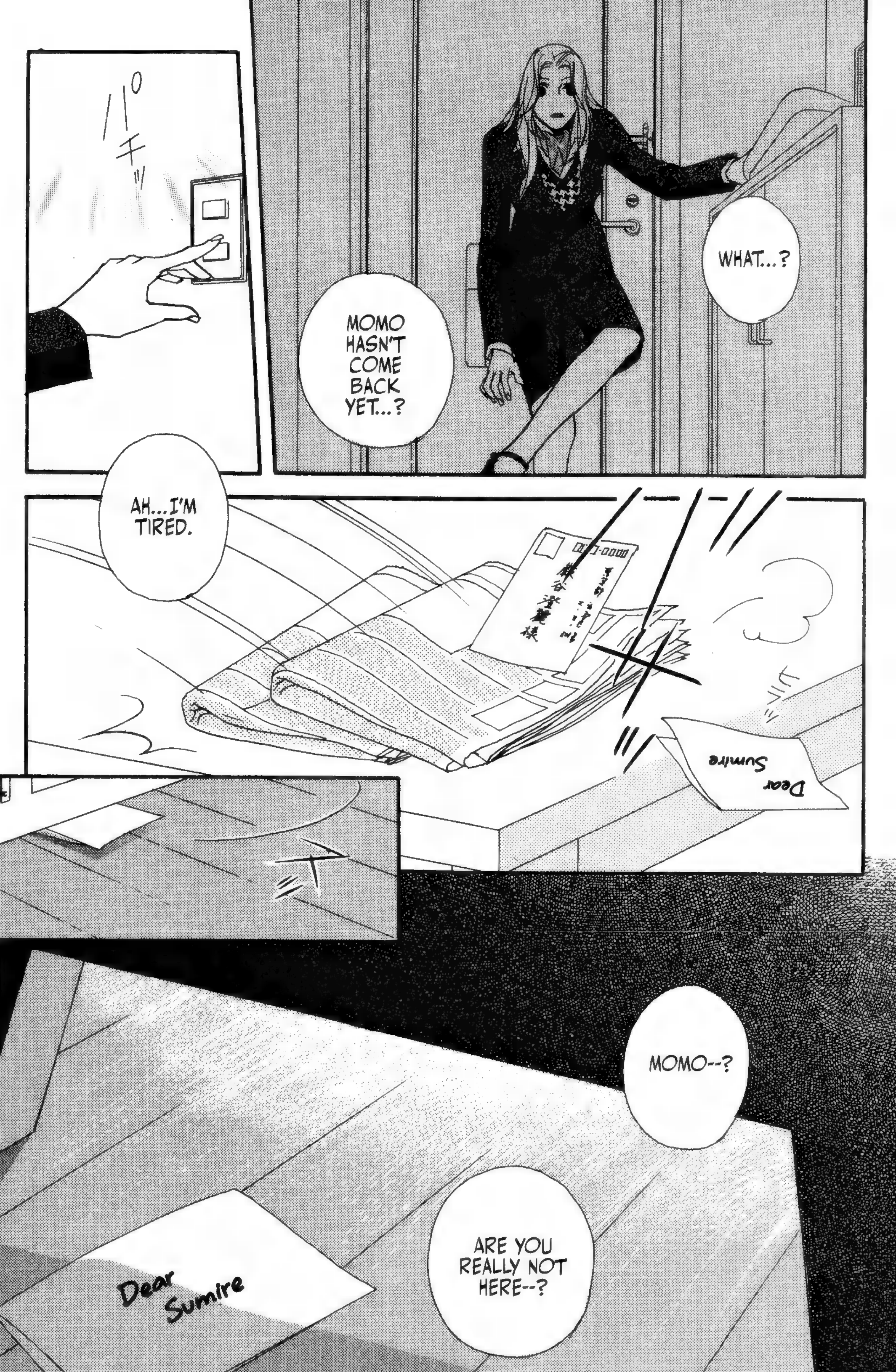
IT'S ABOUT THIS EXPRESSION.
I'VE ALREADY CONFIRMED IT WITH A REVIEWER, BUT I WANTED TO RUN IT BY YOU AS WELL...
OKAY.
OH, I SEE. YEAH, LET'S GO WITH THAT PHRASE.
WHY DON'T I BRING THIS TO YOU LATER?
THAT WOULD BE A BIG HELP. THANKS!
MISS IWAYA, YOU HAVE A PHONE CALL.
I'LL TRANSFER IT TO YOUR DESK.
HELLO?
SUMIRE!

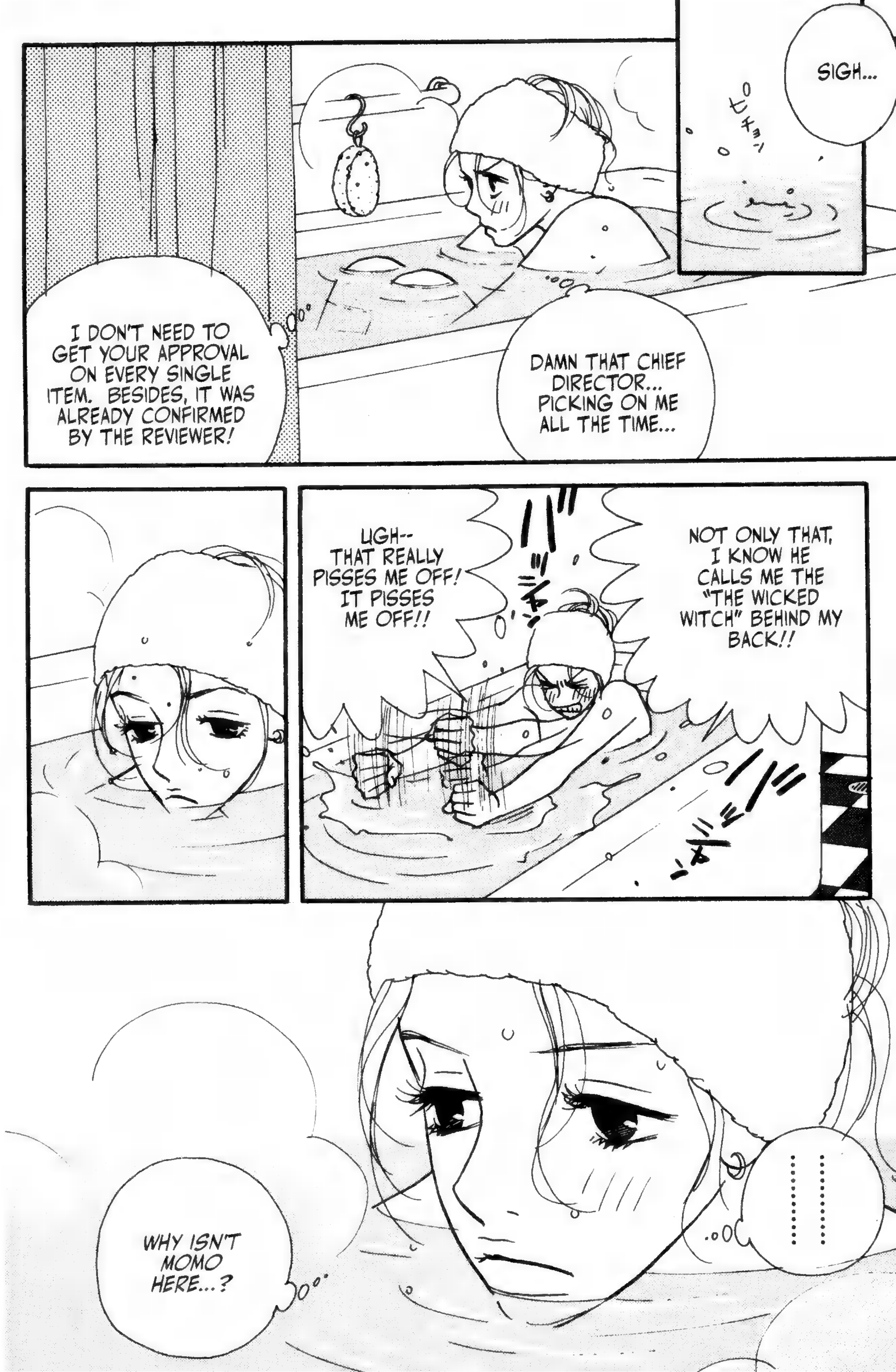
UM...
SO, WHAT'S UP?
MOON
...NOTHING
I JUST WANTED TO SEE YOUR FACE, SUMIRE.
HUH?
HOW COULD YOU COME...ALL THE WAY HERE... WITHOUT GETTING LOST?
I ASKED THE STATION EMPLOYEE WHERE THE EXIT WAS THREE TIMES.
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME.
WELL, NORMAL PEOPLE DON'T GET LOST LIKE YOU.
?
SILLY BOY.
YOU SEE ME EVERY DAY, DON'T YOU?
OH.
YOU'VE GOT A LOOSE BUTTON.
WHERE?
ON YOUR RIGHT SLEEVE.

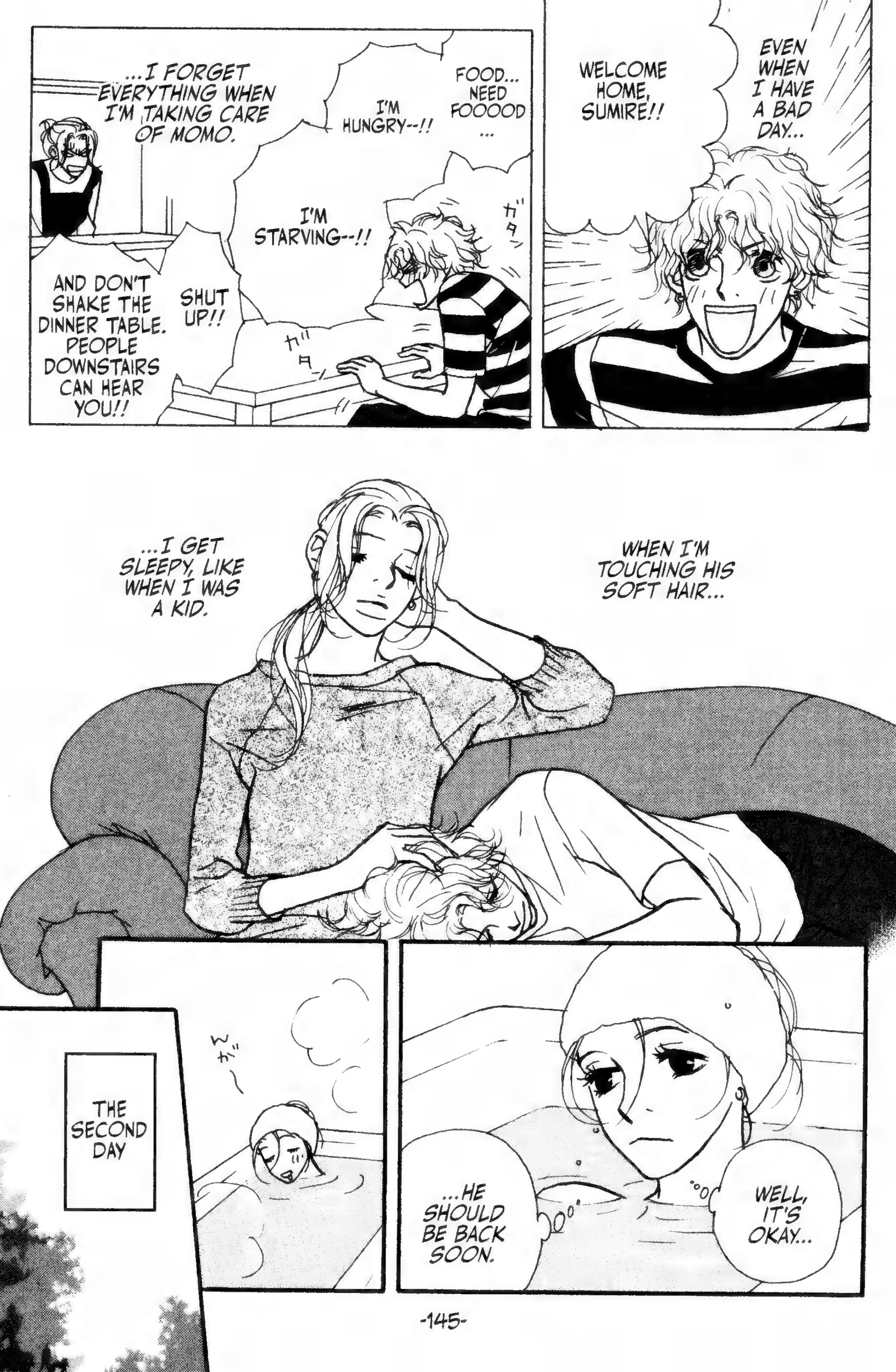
I'LL FIX IT...
...WHEN I GET HOME.
WHAT DID YOU SAY...?
HERE, I HAVE A SEWING KIT. LET ME FIX IT.
GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
NO, THANKS. I CAN DO IT.
HE'S DEFINITELY NOT THE USUAL MOMO...!
BY HIMSELF? FIX IT? MOMO?
MOMO, WHO CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY HIMSELF?
IS THIS MY IMAGINATION?!
OR A JOKE?!
HEY... I'M MEETING WITH MOMO... OUTSIDE OF THE CONDO...
...FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THIS IS NOT MY MOMO--!!
NOW HE'S ACTING REALLY STRANGE.
W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I CAN PAY FOR YOUR DRINK.
IT'S FINE. I GOT PAID FOR MY PERFORMANCES.
WELL THEN, THIS IS FOR MY COFFEE.
350 YEN RIGHT?
CLINK
WHAT A STRANGE FEELING...
WELL, IF THERE'S NOTHING IN PARTICULAR YOU NEED, I'D BETTER GO.
I'M STILL ON DUTY, AFTER ALL.
SEE YOU LATER.
チュ
THANK YOU FOR COMING...!
IT'S SO EMBARRASSING BEING KISSED BY HIM...
...OUTSIDE!

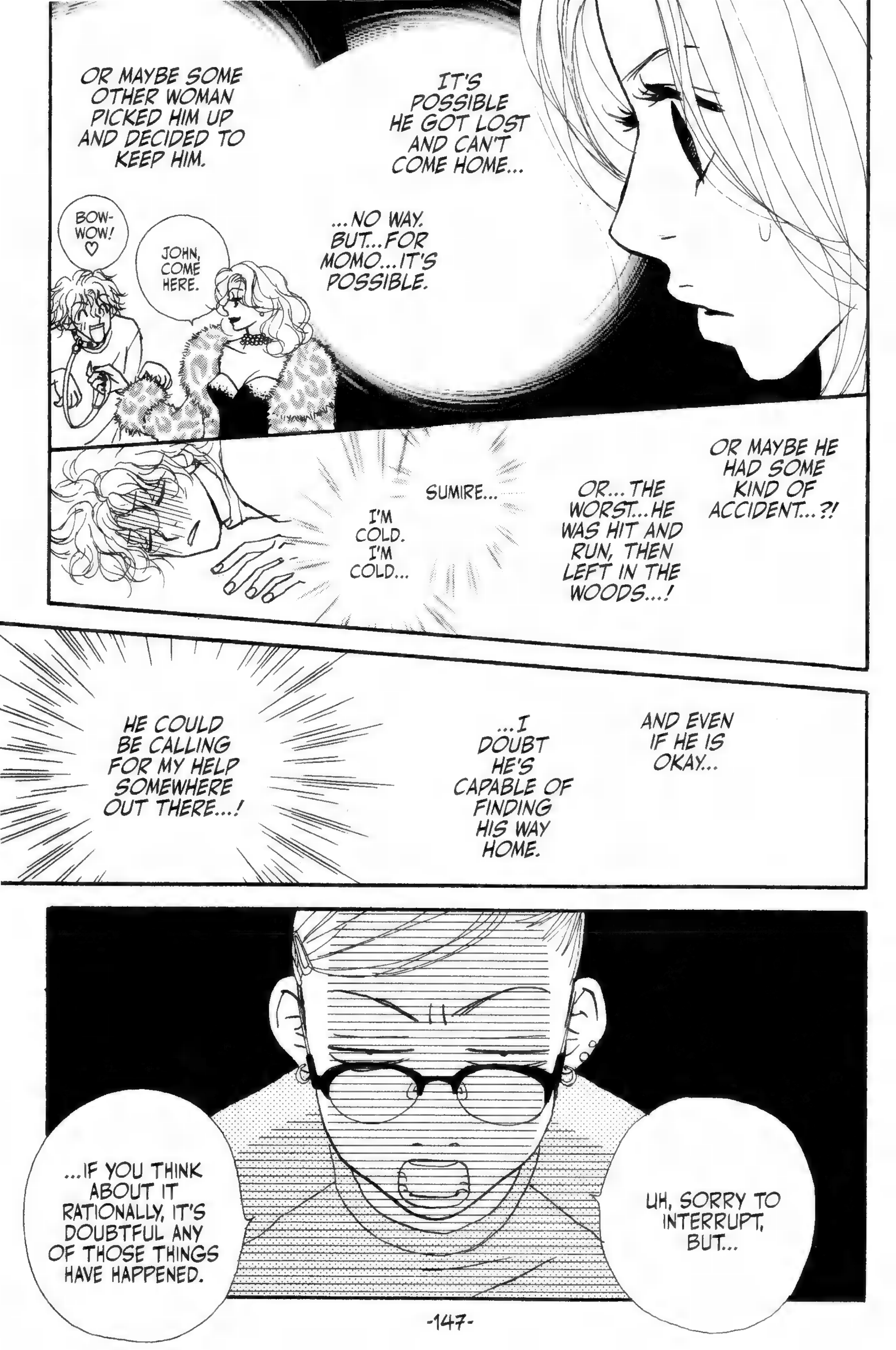
COME TO THINK OF IT...
...THAT DAY, MOMO WASN'T "MY PET, MOMO."
OR MAYBE IT WAS MORE LIKE...
...HE WAS ONLY "MOMO" WHEN WE WERE AT HOME...
...AND I JUST DIDN'T KNOW IT UNTIL THEN.
BUT AFTER THAT DAY... MOMO STOPPED COMING HOME.
I'M HOME...!

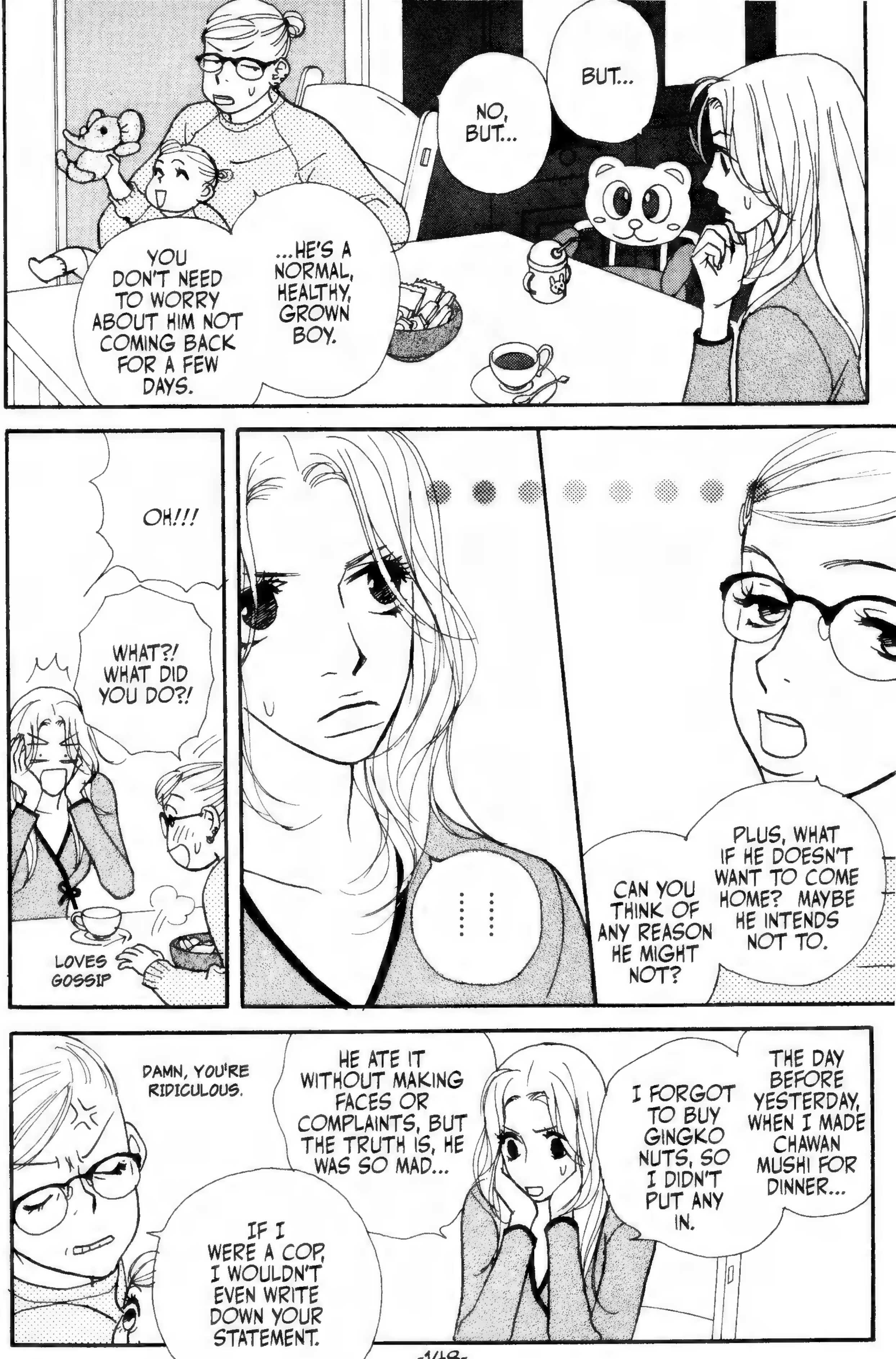

WHAT...?
MOMO HASN'T COME BACK YET...?
パチッ
AH...I'M TIRED.
Dear Sumire
MOMO--?
ARE YOU REALLY NOT HERE--?
Dear Sumire

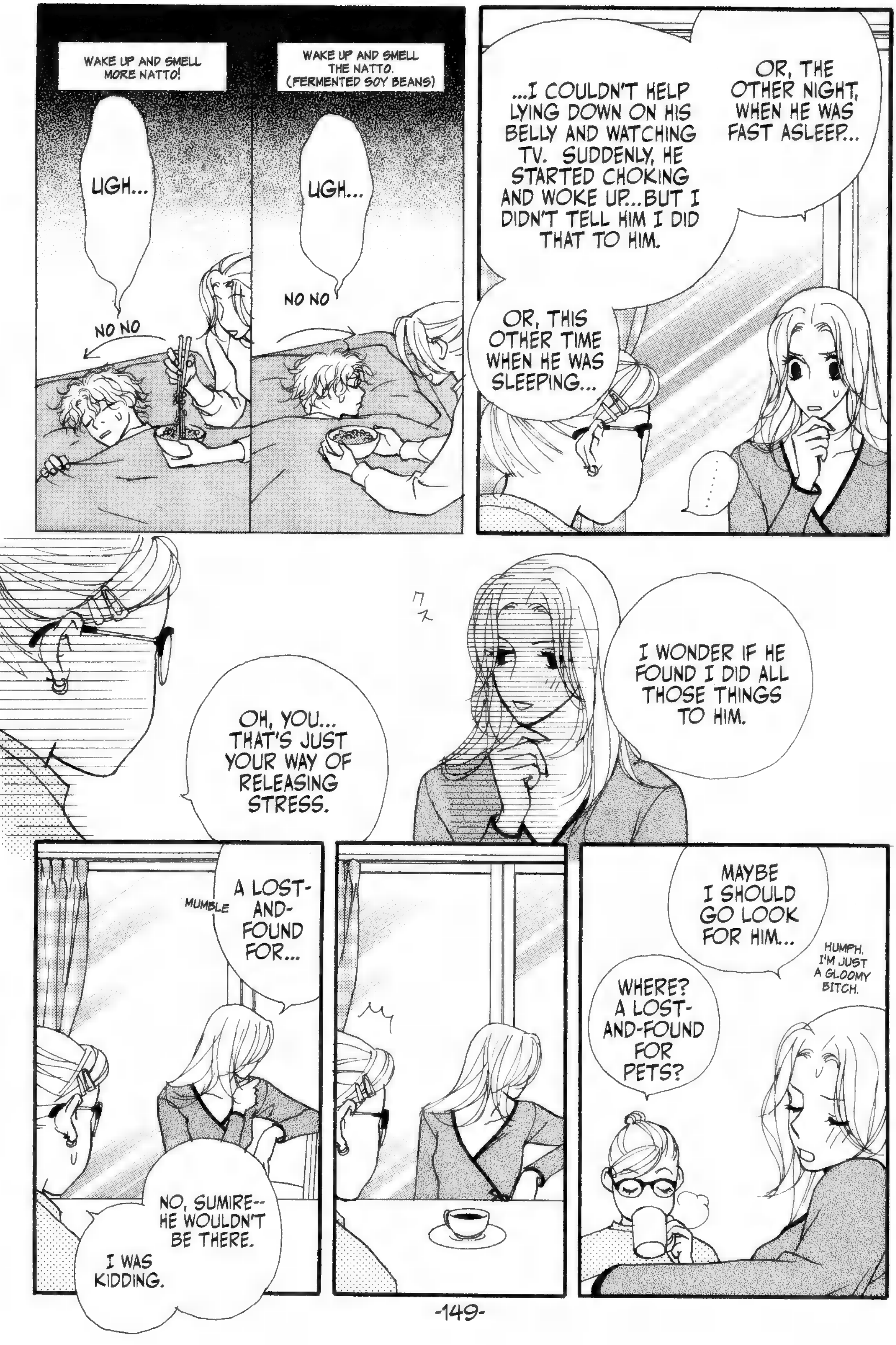

SIGH...
ピチョン
DAMN THAT CHIEF DIRECTOR... PICKING ON ME ALL THE TIME...
I DON'T NEED TO GET YOUR APPROVAL ON EVERY SINGLE ITEM. BESIDES, IT WAS ALREADY CONFIRMED BY THE REVIEWER!
NOT ONLY THAT, I KNOW HE CALLS ME THE "THE WICKED WITCH" BEHIND MY BACK!!
UGH-- THAT REALLY PISSES ME OFF! IT PISSES ME OFF!!
......
WHY ISN'T MOMO HERE...?


EVEN WHEN I HAVE A BAD DAY...
WELCOME HOME, SUMIRE!!
FOOD... NEED FOOOOD ...
I'M HUNGRY--!!
...I FORGET EVERYTHING WHEN I'M TAKING CARE OF MOMO.
I'M STARVING--!!
SHUT UP!!
AND DON'T SHAKE THE DINNER TABLE. PEOPLE DOWNSTAIRS CAN HEAR YOU!!
WHEN I'M TOUCHING HIS SOFT HAIR...
...I GET SLEEPY, LIKE WHEN I WAS A KID.
THE SECOND DAY
WELL, IT'S OKAY...
...HE SHOULD BE BACK SOON.

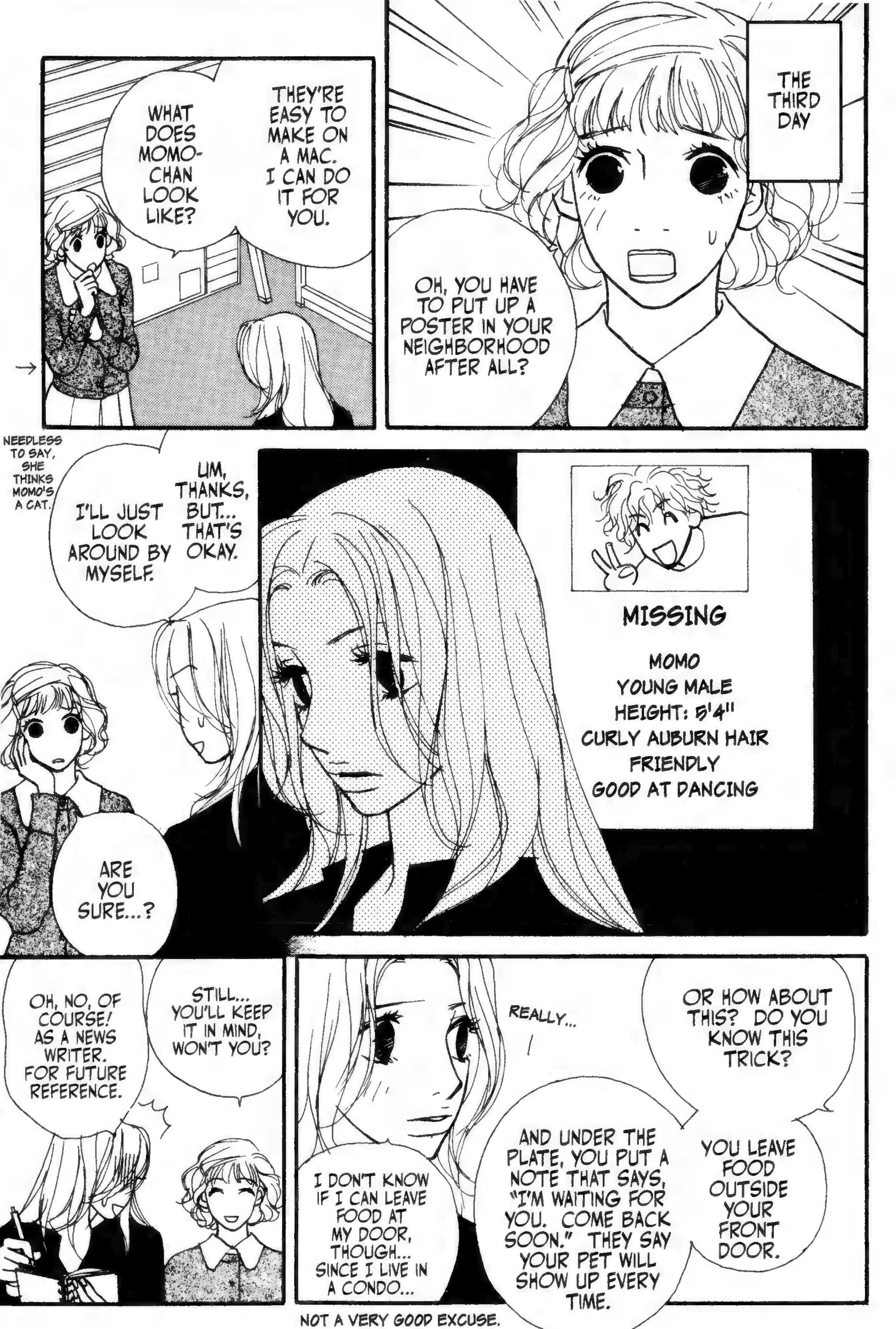
ONE RELATIONSHIP THAT JUST ISN'T MAKING PROGRESS.


IT'S POSSIBLE HE GOT LOST AND CAN'T COME HOME...
OR MAYBE SOME OTHER WOMAN PICKED HIM UP AND DECIDED TO KEEP HIM.
...NO WAY. BUT...FOR MOMO...IT'S POSSIBLE.
JOHN, COME HERE.
BOW-WOW! ♡
OR MAYBE HE HAD SOME KIND OF ACCIDENT...?!
OR...THE WORST...HE WAS HIT AND RUN, THEN LEFT IN THE WOODS...!
SUMIRE...
I'M COLD. I'M COLD...
AND EVEN IF HE IS OKAY...
...I DOUBT HE'S CAPABLE OF FINDING HIS WAY HOME.
HE COULD BE CALLING FOR MY HELP SOMEWHERE OUT THERE...!
UH, SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT...
...IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT RATIONALLY, IT'S DOUBTFUL ANY OF THOSE THINGS HAVE HAPPENED.


YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT HIM NOT COMING BACK FOR A FEW DAYS.
...HE'S A NORMAL, HEALTHY, GROWN BOY.
NO, BUT...
BUT...
PLUS, WHAT IF HE DOESN'T WANT TO COME HOME? MAYBE HE INTENDS NOT TO.
CAN YOU THINK OF ANY REASON HE MIGHT NOT?
......
OH!!!
WHAT?! WHAT DID YOU DO?!
LOVES GOSSIP
THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, WHEN I MADE CHAWAN MUSHI FOR DINNER...
I FORGOT TO BUY GINGKO NUTS, SO I DIDN'T PUT ANY IN.
HE ATE IT WITHOUT MAKING FACES OR COMPLAINTS, BUT THE TRUTH IS, HE WAS SO MAD...
IF I WERE A COP, I WOULDN'T EVEN WRITE DOWN YOUR STATEMENT.
DAMN, YOU'RE RIDICULOUS.


OR, THE OTHER NIGHT, WHEN HE WAS FAST ASLEEP...
...I COULDN'T HELP LYING DOWN ON HIS BELLY AND WATCHING TV. SUDDENLY, HE STARTED CHOKING AND WOKE UP...BUT I DIDN'T TELL HIM I DID THAT TO HIM.
OR, THIS OTHER TIME WHEN HE WAS SLEEPING...
......
WAKE UP AND SMELL THE NATTO. (FERMENTED SOY BEANS)
UGH...
NO NO
WAKE UP AND SMELL MORE NATTO!
UGH...
NO NO
I WONDER IF HE FOUND I DID ALL THOSE THINGS TO HIM.
OH, YOU... THAT'S JUST YOUR WAY OF RELEASING STRESS.
MAYBE I SHOULD GO LOOK FOR HIM...
HUMPH. I'M JUST A GLOOMY BITCH.
WHERE? A LOST-AND-FOUND FOR PETS?
A LOST-AND-FOUND FOR...
MUMBLE
NO, SUMIRE-- HE WOULDN'T BE THERE.
I WAS KIDDING.

SUMIRE.
MOMO?!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN UP UNTIL NOW...?!
AND WHAT'S WITH THE CLOTHES?
OH--MY NAME IS JOHN NOW.
COOL NAME, HUH?
THIS WAY, JOHN. ♡
SORRY, SUMIRE.
BUT MY NEW MISTRESS IS MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL, AND LETS ME HAVE SEX WITH HER. ♡
PLUS SHE HAS BIGGER BOOBS.
SO LONG. TAKE CARE NOW...
WAI...
MOMO?!
MO--?!

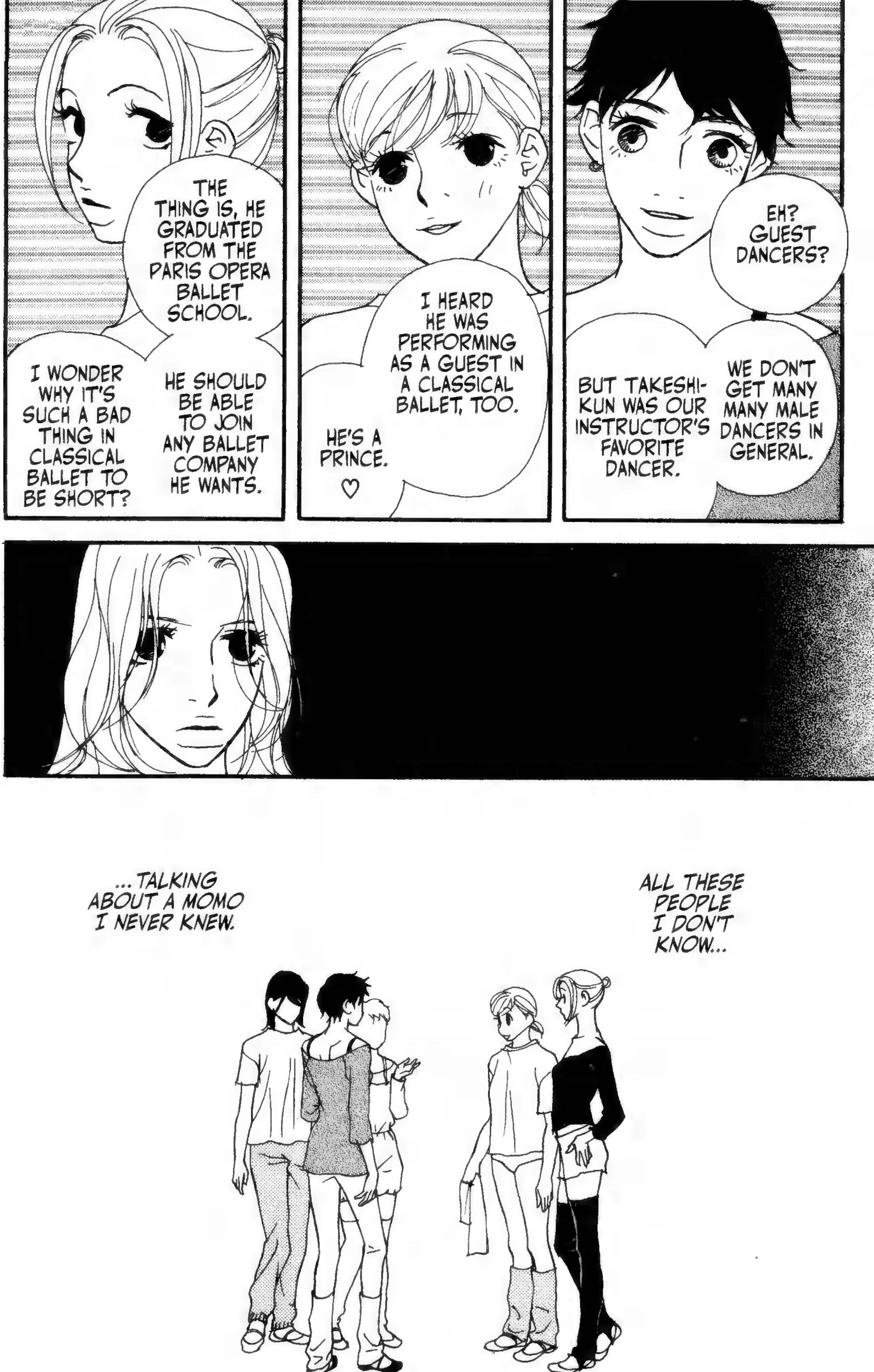

THE THIRD DAY
OH, YOU HAVE TO PUT UP A POSTER IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AFTER ALL?
THEY'RE EASY TO MAKE ON A MAC. I CAN DO IT FOR YOU.
WHAT DOES MOMO-CHAN LOOK LIKE?
UM, THANKS, BUT... THAT'S OKAY.
I'LL JUST LOOK AROUND BY MYSELF.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, SHE THINKS MOMO'S A CAT.
MISSING
MOMO
YOUNG MALE
HEIGHT: 5'4"
CURLY AUBURN HAIR
FRIENDLY
GOOD AT DANCING
ARE YOU SURE...?
OR HOW ABOUT THIS? DO YOU KNOW THIS TRICK?
YOU LEAVE FOOD OUTSIDE YOUR FRONT DOOR.
AND UNDER THE PLATE, YOU PUT A NOTE THAT SAYS, "I'M WAITING FOR YOU. COME BACK SOON." THEY SAY YOUR PET WILL SHOW UP EVERY TIME.
REALLY...
I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN LEAVE FOOD AT MY DOOR, THOUGH... SINCE I LIVE IN A CONDO...
NOT A VERY GOOD EXCUSE.
STILL... YOU'LL KEEP IT IN MIND, WON'T YOU?
OH, NO, OF COURSE! AS A NEWS WRITER. FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

社会部
MR. SATO.
OH, YES?
MISS IWAYA. LONG TIME NO SEE. WHAT IS IT?
WITHIN THE PAST FEW DAYS...HAVE THERE BEEN ANY UNIDENTIFIED YOUNG MEN IN TOKYO THAT WERE KILLED, OR VICTIMS OF A HIT AND RUN?
HMM...NO YOUNG MEN, AS FAR AS I KNOW...BUT THERE WAS THIS ONE WITH A TATTOO WHO LOOKED LIKE A YAKUZA...
BUT IN THE TOKYO BAY AREA. HEARD IT WAS HORRIBLE.
I SEE. THANKS.
THAT'S IT?
HOW RUDE...
フゥッ
......

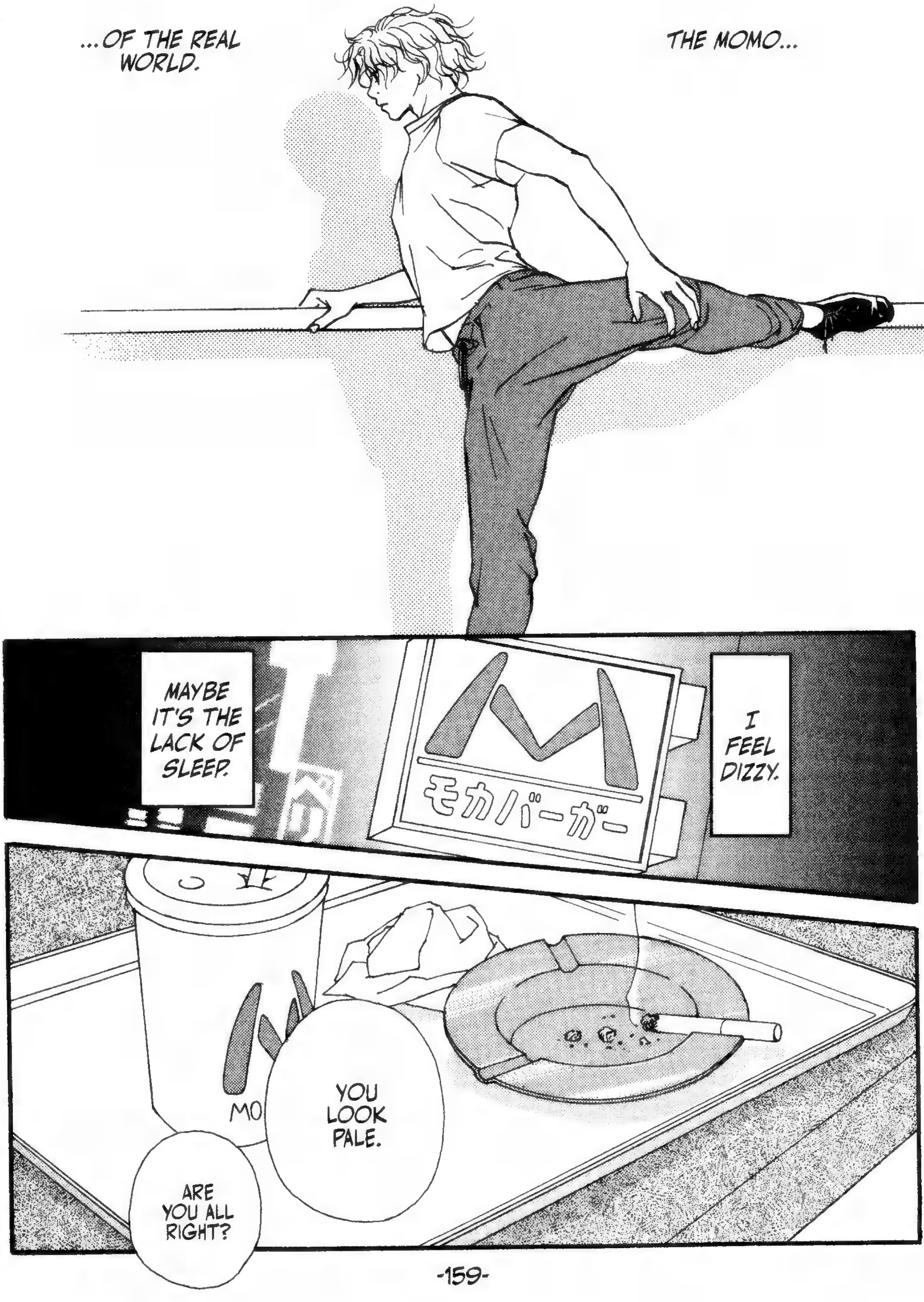
ゴロン
ゴロン
...I CAN'T SLEEP...
SEE YOU LATER.
WHY "SEE YOU LATER"?
YOU COULD'VE AT LEAST CALLED ME OR SOMETHING ...
MOMO-- YOU MOVE IN AS IF YOU OWN THE PLACE...
...YOU CHILL ME OUT...
...AND THEN YOU DISAPPEAR, JUST LIKE THAT?
SUMIRE...I LIKE YOU SO MUCH.

*AM I REALLY GONNA
LOSE YOU LIKE THIS?*

HUH?!
YOU DO LOOK A BIT THREATENING.
OH...MAYBE NOT. WELL, HE LIKED TO BORROW MONEY AND WAS ALWAYS BEING CHASED DOWN BY SOMEONE.
WHAT? TAKESHI'S IN TROUBLE AGAIN?
OH! YOU'RE TAKESHI'S SECOND COUSIN.
THAT'S RIGHT, ISN'T IT? YOU CAME BY THE THEATER THAT OTHER TIME.
ALL GIRLS...
わら
わら
わら
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. I THOUGHT YOU LOOKED FAMILIAR!
TAKESHI DOESN'T COME HERE ANYMORE.
HE WAS ONLY HERE AS A GUEST DANCER FOR OUR LAST PERFORMANCE.
I THINK HE USUALLY GOES TO...
RUMI CAN TELL YOU ABOUT HIM.
HEY, RUMI...
THAT GIRL IN THE BLUE T-SHIRT, OVER AT THE BARRE.
SHE WAS PRETTY CLOSE WITH TAKESHI.
プイ
SHEESH. WHAT'S WITH THE ATTITUDE?
WELL, I THINK HE'S AT THE AOYAMA STUDIO.
I'LL ASK OUR INSTRUCTOR TO DOUBLE CHECK.



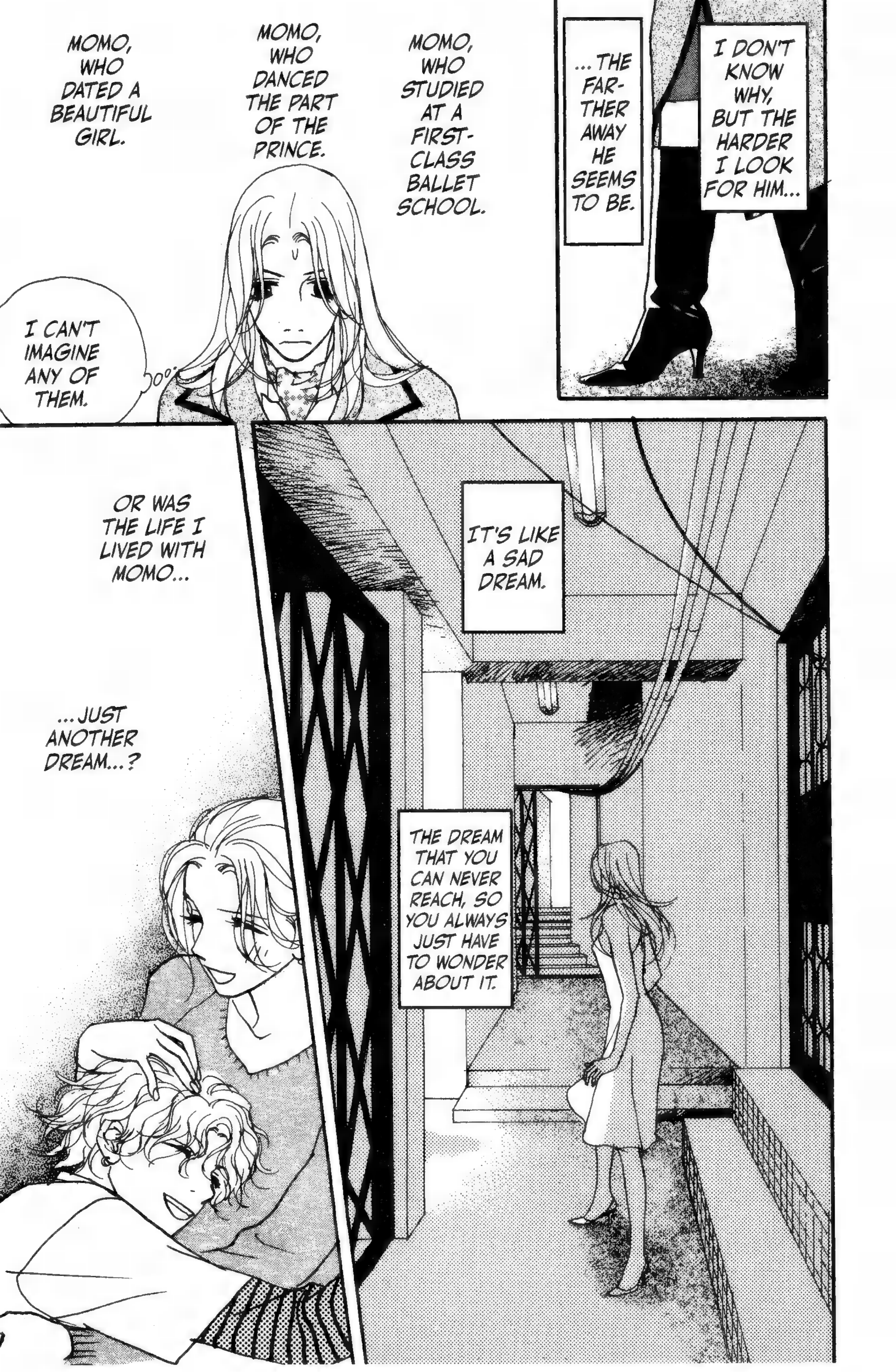
EH? GUEST DANCERS?
WE DON'T GET MANY MANY MALE DANCERS IN GENERAL.
BUT TAKESHI-KUN WAS OUR INSTRUCTOR'S FAVORITE DANCER.
I HEARD HE WAS PERFORMING AS A GUEST IN A CLASSICAL BALLET, TOO.
HE'S A PRINCE. ♡
THE THING IS, HE GRADUATED FROM THE PARIS OPERA BALLET SCHOOL.
HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO JOIN ANY BALLET COMPANY HE WANTS.
I WONDER WHY IT'S SUCH A BAD THING IN CLASSICAL BALLET TO BE SHORT?
ALL THESE PEOPLE I DON'T KNOW...
...TALKING ABOUT A MOMO I NEVER KNEW.

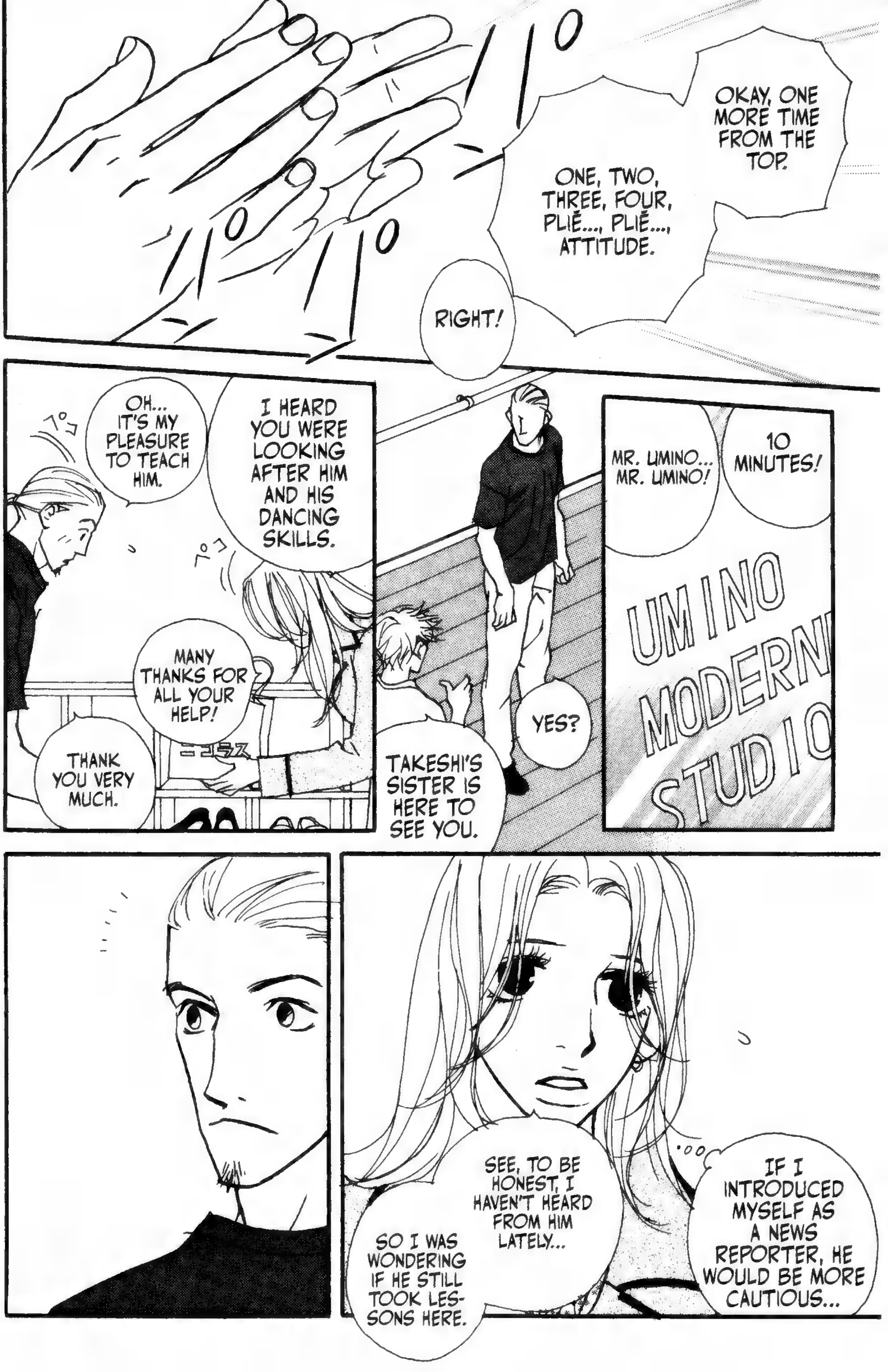

THE MOMO...
...OF THE REAL WORLD.
I FEEL DIZZY.
MAYBE IT'S THE LACK OF SLEEP.
モカバーガー
YOU LOOK PALE.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

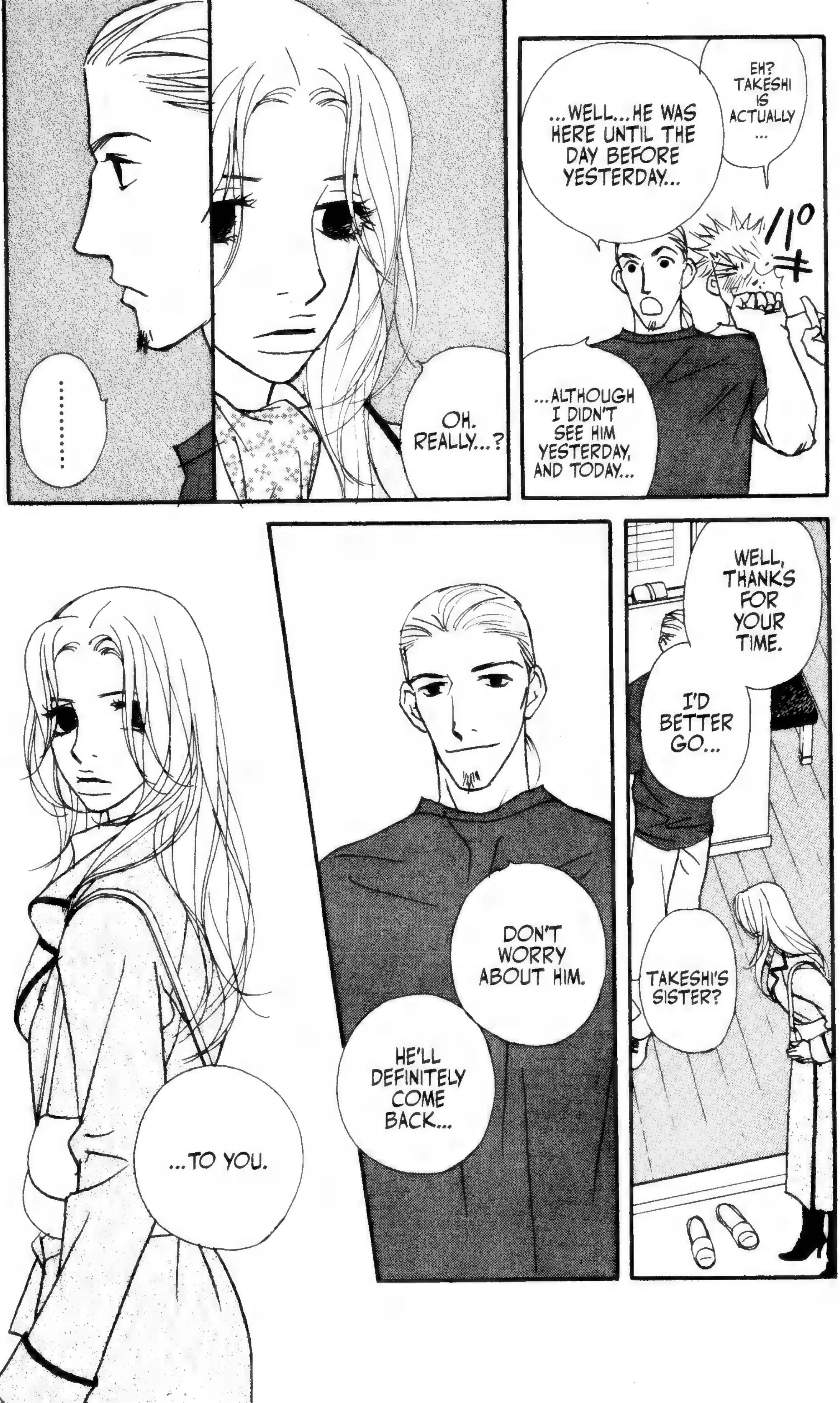
WOW... SHE'S BEAUTIFUL.
OH, YOU'RE...
RUMI SHIBUSAWA.
MAY I SIT WITH YOU?
YOU TOLD US YOU WERE HIS SECOND COUSIN...
BUT YOU'RE ACTUALLY HIS GIRLFRIEND, AREN'T YOU?
HUH...?
YOU DON'T NEED TO LIE TO ME.
AH...BUT I'M NOT...
TAKESHI AND I WERE FINISHED A LONG TIME AGO.

"FINISHED" MEANS...
...IT WASN'T ALWAYS FINISHED. SO...THEY USED TO BE AN ITEM...
I SEE...
BUT I'M NOT HIS...
LOOK, SIS, YOU'D BETTER STOP SEEING HIM.
HE CARES ONLY ABOUT HIMSELF.
IF YOU DO FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM...YOU'LL GET HURT.
IT'S NOT THAT HE CARES ONLY ABOUT HIMSELF...
...HE'S JUST BUSY TAKING CARE OF HIMSELF, I THINK.

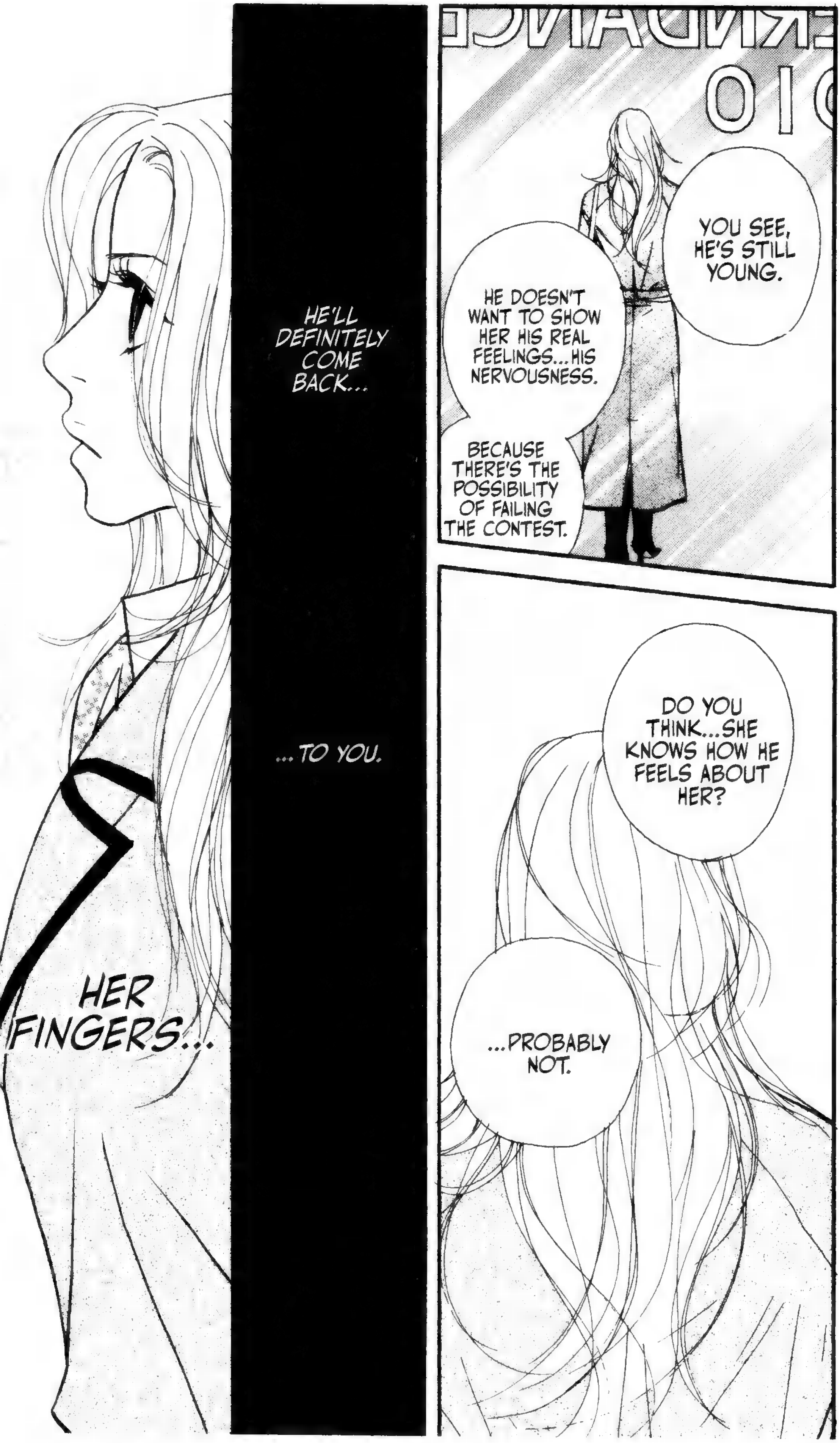
ONCE HE GETS A BIT MORE MATURE AND CONFIDENT...I CAN SEE HIM IN A RELATIONSHIP WHERE HE IS TRULY DEVOTED TO HIS PARTNER.
AND YOU, TOO.
AND I'M NOT HIS GIRLFRIEND.
I'M A REPORTER FROM KODAN NEWSPAPER.
JUST ANOTHER FAN.
UH--WHAT I TOLD YOU NOW-- IT'S--
COMPLETELY OFF THE RECORD. OF COURSE.
NICE MEETING YOU.


I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THE HARDER I LOOK FOR HIM...
...THE FARTHER AWAY HE SEEMS TO BE.
MOMO, WHO STUDIED AT A FIRST-CLASS BALLET SCHOOL.
MOMO, WHO DANCED THE PART OF THE PRINCE.
MOMO, WHO DATED A BEAUTIFUL GIRL.
I CAN'T IMAGINE ANY OF THEM.
IT'S LIKE A SAD DREAM.
THE DREAM THAT YOU CAN NEVER REACH, SO YOU ALWAYS JUST HAVE TO WONDER ABOUT IT.
OR WAS THE LIFE I LIVED WITH MOMO...
...JUST ANOTHER DREAM...?


OKAY, ONE MORE TIME FROM THE TOP.
ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, PLIÉ..., PLIÉ..., ATTITUDE.
RIGHT!
10 MINUTES!
MR. UMINO... MR. UMINO!
UMINO MODERN STUDIO
YES?
TAKESHI'S SISTER IS HERE TO SEE YOU.
I HEARD YOU WERE LOOKING AFTER HIM AND HIS DANCING SKILLS.
OH... IT'S MY PLEASURE TO TEACH HIM.
MANY THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
IF I INTRODUCED MYSELF AS A NEWS REPORTER, HE WOULD BE MORE CAUTIOUS...
SEE, TO BE HONEST, I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM LATELY...
SO I WAS WONDERING IF HE STILL TOOK LESSONS HERE.

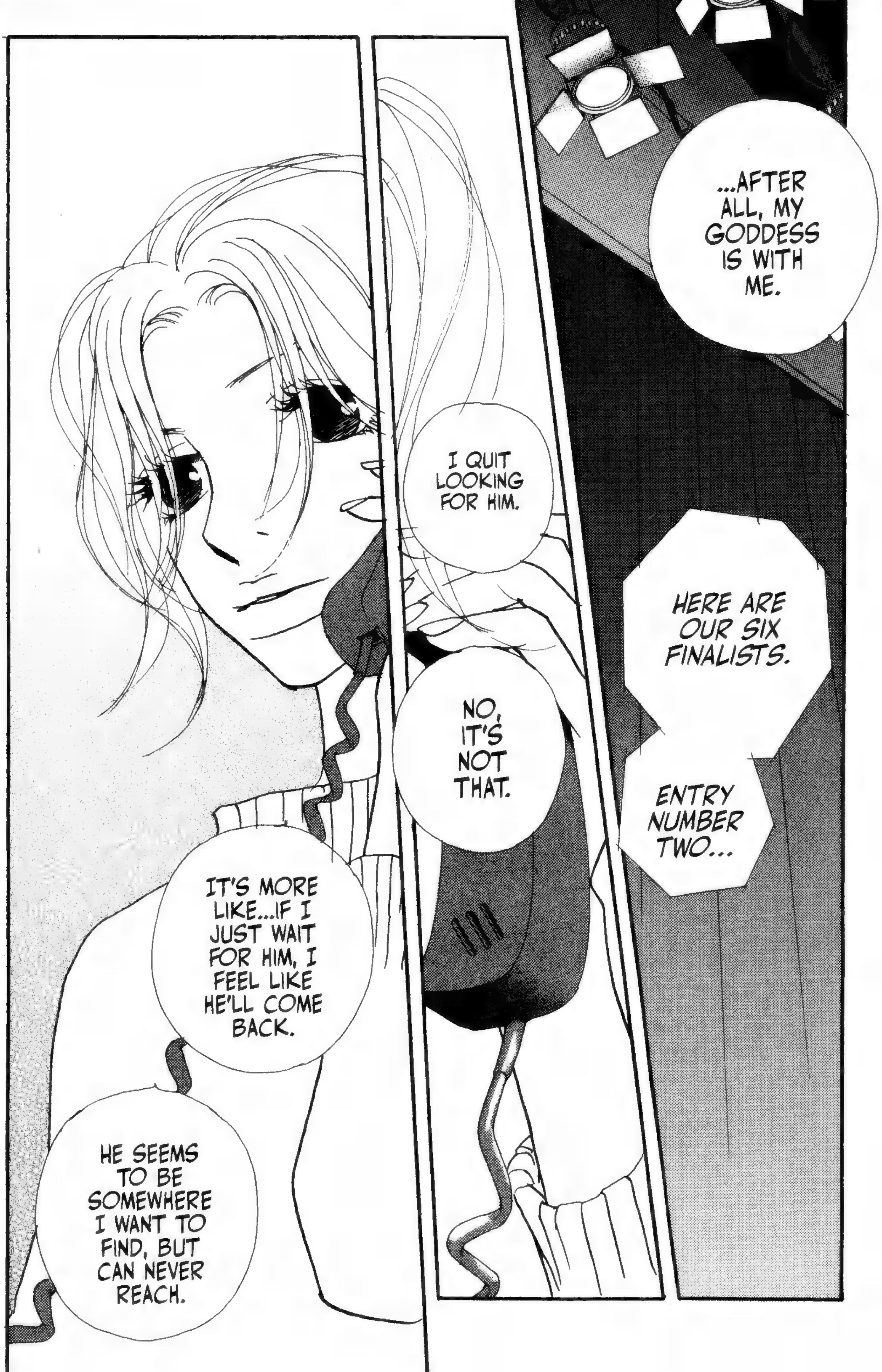

EH? TAKESHI IS ACTUALLY ...
...WELL...HE WAS HERE UNTIL THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY...
...ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T SEE HIM YESTERDAY, AND TODAY...
OH. REALLY...?
....
WELL, THANKS FOR YOUR TIME.
I'D BETTER GO...
TAKESHI'S SISTER?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM.
HE'LL DEFINITELY COME BACK...
...TO YOU.

WH-WHY...DIDN'T YOU TELL HER T-TAKESHI JUST WENT TO SAPPORO FOR A C-CONTEST?
OUCH...
IF SHE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT THE TRIP, IT'S BECAUSE HE DIDN'T TELL HER.
AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'M NOT ABOUT TO INTERFERE.
BUT WHY--? ISN'T SHE HIS SISTER?
NO, I DON'T THINK SO.
SHE'S PROBABLY THE ONE HE TOLD US ABOUT...THE ONE WHO WAS TAKING CARE OF HIM.
REMEMBER THE ORIGINAL DANCE HE WAS WORKING SO HARD ON UNTIL YESTERDAY? THE ONE THAT MADE HIM FORGET TO EAT?
I'M GUESSING THAT LADY WAS HIS INSPIRATION.
I GOT THAT FEELING FROM HER RIGHT AWAY.
TAKESHI'S ACTUALLY PRETTY DESPERATE, EVEN IF HE DOESN'T LOOK IT.
HE DOESN'T THINK HE'S GOOD ENOUGH TO PERFORM IN CONTEMPORARY DANCE, WITH HIS BALLET BACK-GROUND AND ALL.
THAT'S WHY HE STARTED IN THE BASIC CLASS HERE.
THIS IS HIS FIRST MODERN DANCE COMPETITION.
HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT...
I THINK HE WAS VERY NERVOUS.


YOU SEE, HE'S STILL YOUNG.
HE DOESN'T WANT TO SHOW HER HIS REAL FEELINGS...HIS NERVOUSNESS.
BECAUSE THERE'S THE POSSIBILITY OF FAILING THE CONTEST.
DO YOU THINK...SHE KNOWS HOW HE FEELS ABOUT HER?
...PROBABLY NOT.
HE'LL DEFINITELY COME BACK...
...TO YOU.
HER FINGERS...

AND MY HAPPINESS AT THAT MOMENT...
...TOUCHED MY HAIR.
I WAS SO ANXIOUS AND UNSURE. SO I DECIDED TO EXPRESS THAT THROUGH MY DANCE.
...I WONDER IF I CAN REMEMBER THAT HAPPINESS FOREVER?
YOU WERE REALLY GOOD!
THANK YOU.
I HEARD IT WAS YOUR OWN CHOREOGRAPHY. IS THAT TRUE?
SUCH HIGH JUMPS--AS USUAL!
AND WHAT DOES THE TITLE, "PET," MEAN?
IT MEANS, LITERALLY, A COMPANION CREATURE.
THE MAIN CHARACTER IS KEPT AS AN ACTUAL PET BY THE WOMAN HE LOVES.
WOW, THAT'S... COOL...

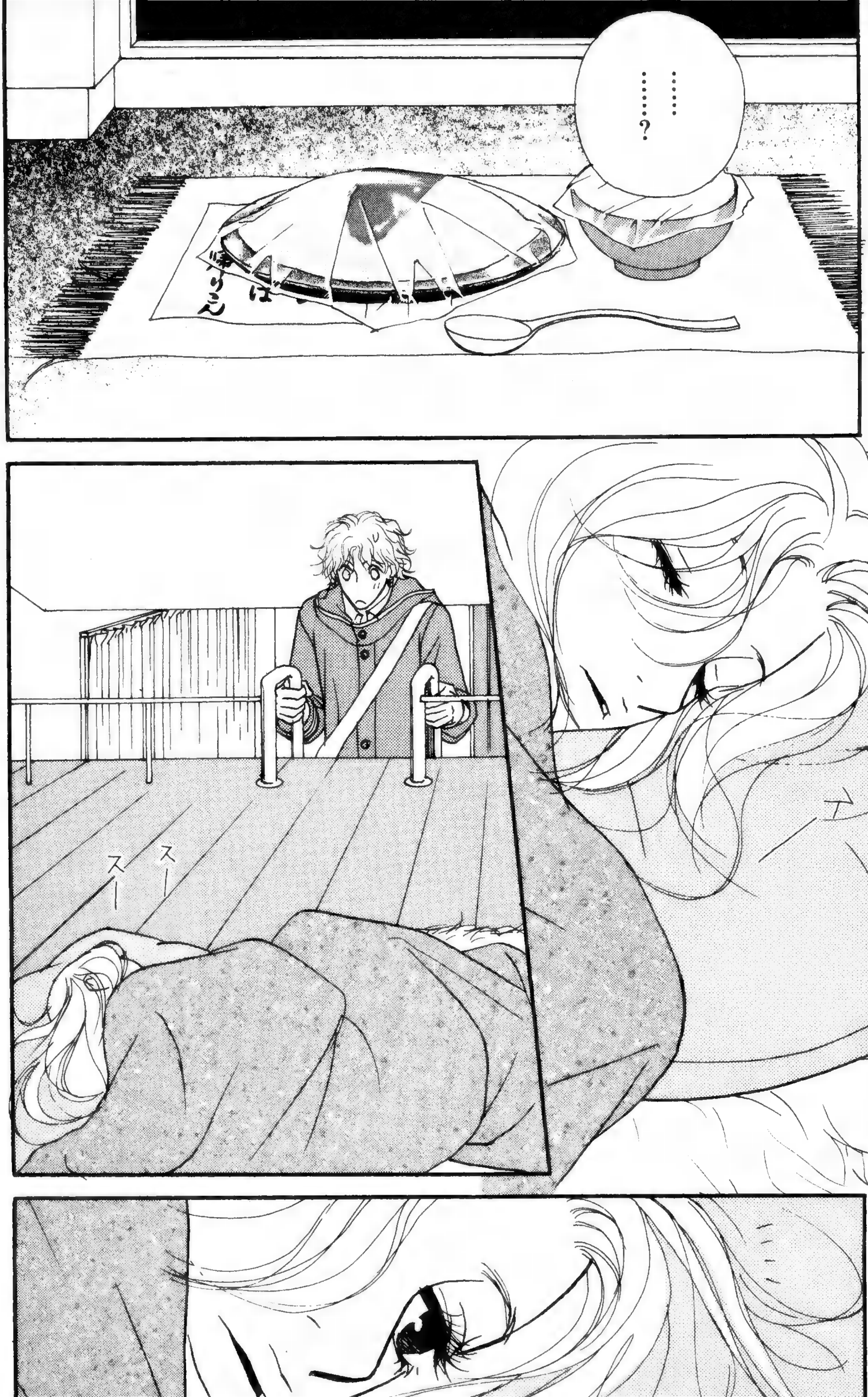
EXCUSE ME, MR. GOUDA...
CAN I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH ...?
AH...WHY?
WELL... I'VE ALWAYS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST FAN...
I EVEN TAPED YOUR PERFORMANCE AT PRIX DE LAUSANNE.
OH.
AREN'T YOU THE FAMOUS CLASSICAL BALLET PERFORMER ...?
WELL...I GUESS I CAN SIGN YOUR T-SHIRT!
TURN AROUND.
HOW'S THIS? ♡
THANK YOU SO MUCH.
KYAH! ♡
Gouda was here. Nice to meet you.
......
THE JUDGES HAVE MADE THEIR DECISION. PLEASE COME TO STAGE LEFT.
HERE IT COMES.
WHAT DO YOU THINK? CONFIDENT YOU'LL WIN?
NO...
BUT MAYBE I WILL...


...AFTER ALL, MY GODDESS IS WITH ME.
HERE ARE OUR SIX FINALISTS.
ENTRY NUMBER TWO...
I QUIT LOOKING FOR HIM.
NO, IT'S NOT THAT.
IT'S MORE LIKE...IF I JUST WAIT FOR HIM, I FEEL LIKE HE'LL COME BACK.
HE SEEMS TO BE SOMEWHERE I WANT TO FIND, BUT CAN NEVER REACH.

WELCOME HOME, SUMIRE!
AFTER ALL, HE ALWAYS...
STANDING ON END
WELCOME BACK...
...WAITED FOR ME TO COME BACK HOME.
WELCOME BACK--I'M STARRRVING!
THIS TIME IT'S MY TURN.
SO I'LL JUST LEAVE SOME FOOD OUT AND WAIT FOR HIM AS LONG AS I CAN.
THAT'S RIGHT.
OH... BY THE WAY...

"DEAR SUMIRE ..."
"I'M NOT COMING HOME FOR THE NEXT FIVE DAYS, BUT PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME."
"IF I COME BACK IN TWO OR THREE DAYS WITH RED, WATERY EYES, PLEASE JUST PET MY HEAD AND DON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS."
"BUT EVEN IF I COME BACK ON THE FIFTH DAY... WILL YOU STILL PLEASE BE THERE TO PET MY HEAD?"
I'M... WAITING... FOR... YOU...

"I'LL SEE YOU IN A WHILE. YOURS TRULY, MOMO."
"P.S. PLEASE PUT GINGKO NUTS IN THE CHAWAN MUSHI NEXT TIME."
...COME... BACK... SOON. ALL RIGHT.
THE FIFTH DAY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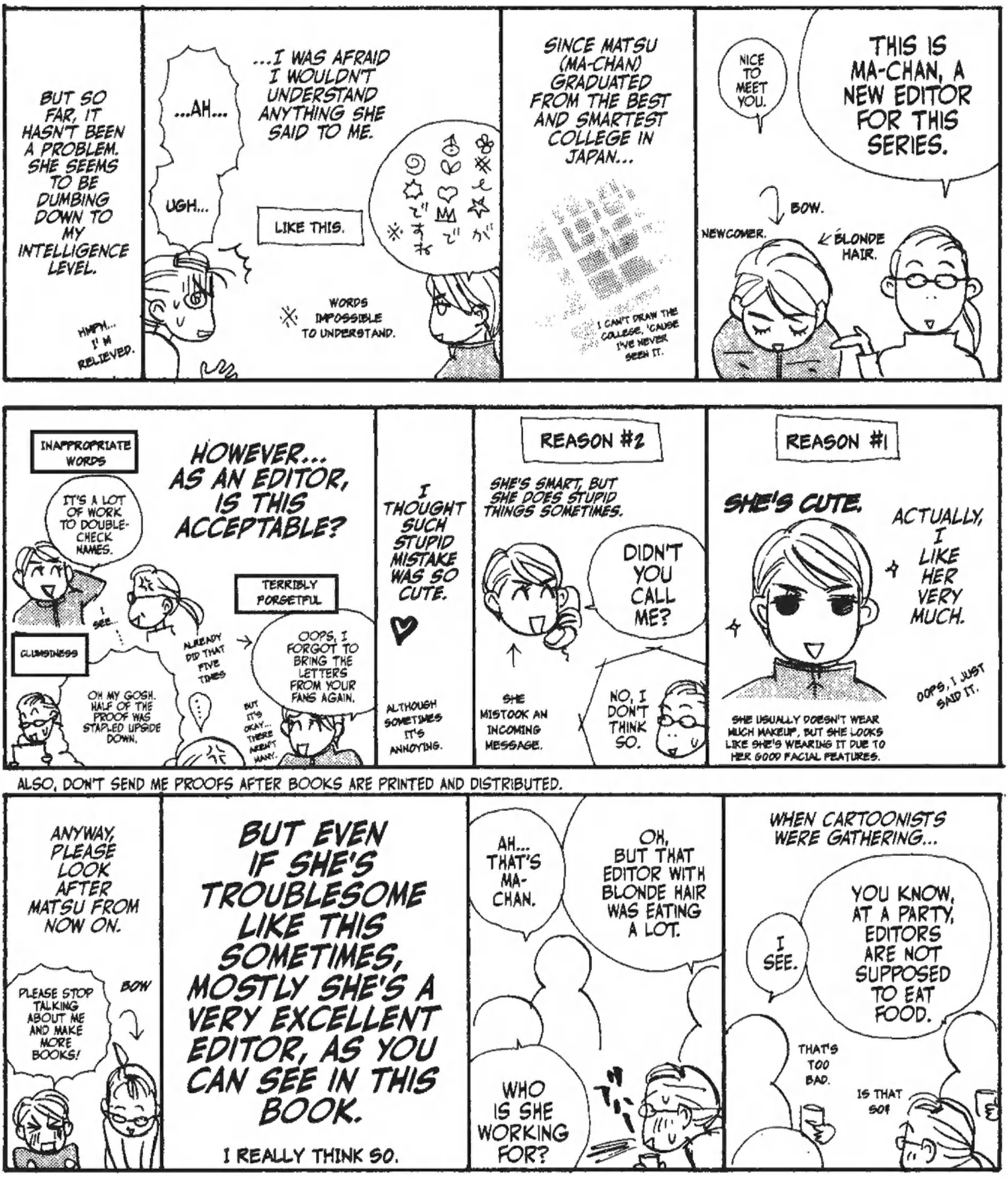
WHEN I WOKE UP...
MOMO WAS THERE.
A DREAM...
...AT LEAST, I THOUGHT SO AT FIRST... BUT I DIDN'T EVEN CARE.
I FELT LIKE I SHOULD ENJOY MY DREAMS AFTER FIVE DAYS OF SLEEPLESSNESS.

AND THIS WAS ONE DREAM I WANTED TO HOLD ONTO FOREVER.
WELCOME HOME...
THE END

MA-CHAN GOES FOR IT!

1

YAYOI OGAWA VERSION.



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CHECK IT!

小川彌生公式ホームページ

EXTRA HEAVY SYRUP

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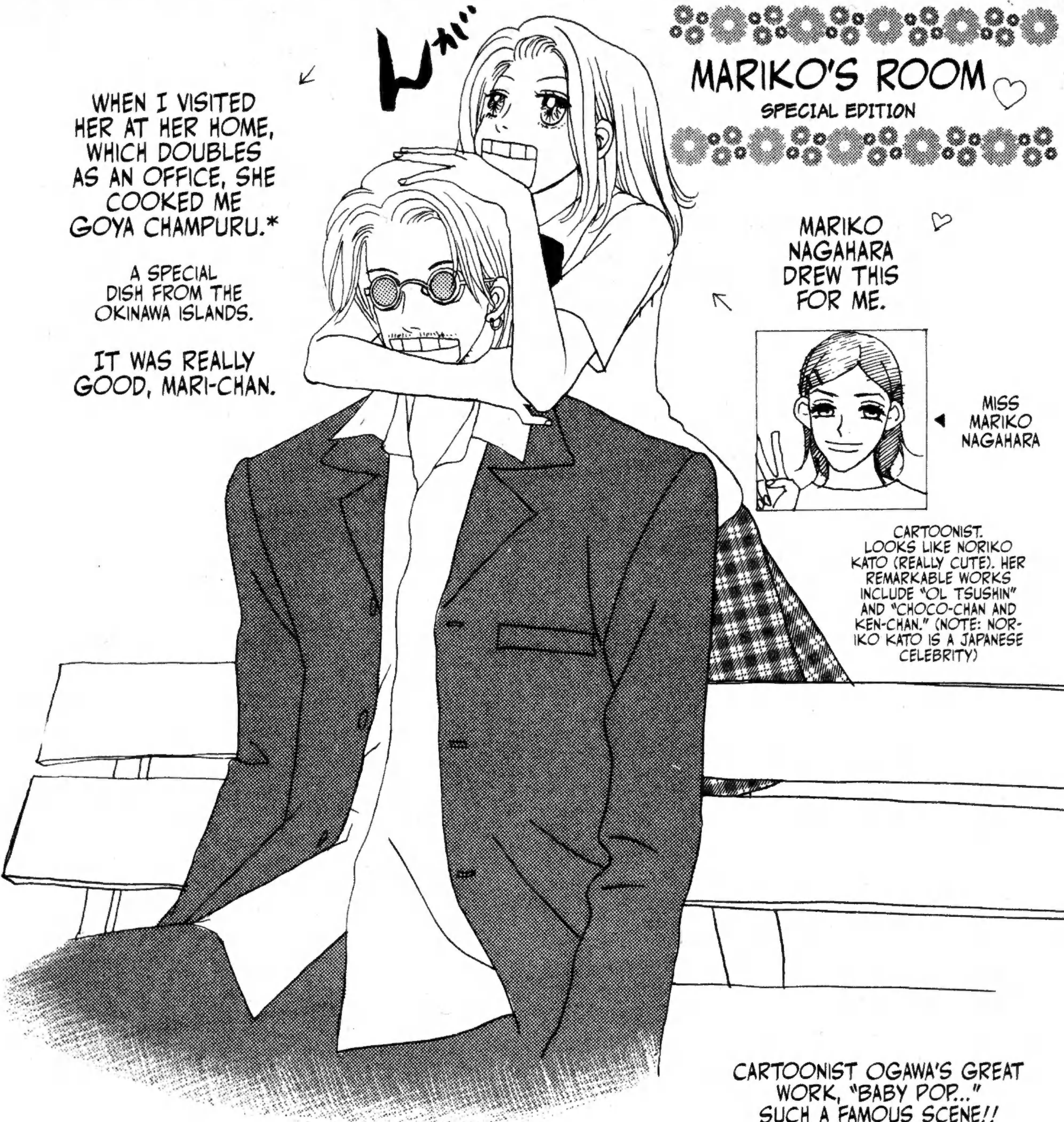
MARIKO'S ROOM ♡
SPECIAL EDITION



WHEN I VISITED HER AT HER HOME, WHICH DOUBLES AS AN OFFICE, SHE COOKED ME GOYA CHAMPURU.*

*A SPECIAL DISH FROM THE OKINAWA ISLANDS.

IT WAS REALLY GOOD, MARI-CHAN.

MARIKO NAGAHARA DREW THIS FOR ME.

◀ MISS MARIKO NAGAHARA

CARTOONIST. LOOKS LIKE NORIKO KATO (REALLY CUTE). HER REMARKABLE WORKS INCLUDE "OL TSUSHIN" AND "CHOCO-CHAN AND KEN-CHAN." (NOTE: NORIKO KATO IS A JAPANESE CELEBRITY)

CARTOONIST OGAWA'S GREAT WORK, "BABY POP..." SUCH A FAMOUS SCENE!! SHE LET ME DRAW IT. NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I'VE SEEN THE SCENE ALREADY, I'M ALWAYS TOUCHED... ...WHAT?! IS IT WRONG?! ...IS THAT RIGHT?! EH?! REALLY?! OOPS--!!! (I WAS HIT BY MANY OF OGAWA'S FANS...)

MCKINLEY MOUNTAINEERING PARTY

YAYOI OGAWA CAME TO VISIT MY OFFICE. COME BACK AGAIN. I'M SORRY ABOUT THE GOYA CHAMPURU BEING TOO MILD-TASTING. I'LL ENHANCE MY COOKING SKILLS FOR THE NEXT TIME I SEE YOU.

BY MARIKO NAGAHARA

You're My Pet 1

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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